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EASTERN

F.O. 371

1948

PALESTINE

FILE No.

pp 2082 - 2484

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

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13 FEB 1948

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Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL.

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 449.
D. 1.7 p.m. 12th February, 1948.
R. 7.4 p.m. 12th February, 1948.

EMMEDIATE.
SECRET.

Addressed High Commissioner Jerusalem telegram No. 88, February 12th, repeated for information to Foreign Office for Colonial Office and Saving to Washington.

Following for Gurney from Fletcher-Cooke.

[Begins] Reference paragraph 4 of my telegram No. 74 (of 6th February) repeated to Foreign Office No. 376.

An official letter has now been received from the Commission which reads as follows:-

"The Commission decided at its thirty-first meeting on 5th February to send such an advance party consisting of four senior officials and two secretaries for the following purposes:

- (1) To consult with appropriate officials regarding physical arrangements for the Commission.
- (2) To make a quick preliminary study of urgent fiscal problems. (Budget for 1948-1949, collection of revenue, etc.).
- (3) To consult with Government officials regarding the administration of currency controls.
- (4) To make a preliminary study of the structure of the Palestine administration and of present administrative practices.
- (5) To consult with appropriate officials regarding the organisation and functioning of public utilities (railways, postal services, telephone and telegraph, etc.).
- (6) To make a preliminary estimate of the number of present Government employees who would be willing to serve under the Commission.
- (7) To consult with the Palestine Police on all police matters.
- (8) To make preliminary contacts with prominent organisations and individuals.

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13 FER BOOK

- (9) To consult with British military officials on the security situation.
- (10) To consult with British military officials on the details of their plans for withdrawal.
- (11) To survey the suitability of the facilities at Aqir referred to in paragraph 5 of the memorandum of the United Kingdom of 29th January.
- (12) To consult with appropriate officials regarding existing health facilities.
- (13) To consult with appropriate officials of the Palestine administration on problems of local self-government.
- (14) To report to the Commission on the state of public opinion and on the general political situation.

It would be appreciated if all possible facilities could be granted to this advance party in carrying out the functions listed above, including access to files of the Palestine Government, as well as the usual diplomatic privileges and immunities, including the right to send and receive cyphered messages and to use a diplomatic pouch. It will be necessary for the party to pay an extended visit to Jerusalem for the purpose of undertaking the consultations and other functions mentioned above.

It is assumed that the mandatory power, which is responsible for law and order in Palestine until the termination of the mandate, will accept responsibility for the security of the members of the proposed advance party.

No definite date for the departure of the advance party has been set, but it is hoped that the party may reach Palestine on or about 19th February. This date is subject to confirmation as soon as the date of departure is definitely known".

2. Your telegram No. 367 (repeated to the Colonial Office as No. 345) has just come in and I have conveyed the information contained in paragraphs 1 and 2 to Bunche. I will let you know the Commission's reactions as soon as I receive them and I shall be grateful to receive an indication of the lines on which I should reply to the Commission's formal letter quoted above.

Please pass immediate to Jerusalem and to Colonial Office.

[Copies sent to Colonial Office and to Telegraph Section, Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem].

INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

Cypher (O.T.P.)

2082 4

1 7 15 1948

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

D. 14th February, 1948. R. 14th "

19.40 hrs.

IMPORTANT

No. 367 Secret.

Addressed to Washington No.87 (Washington please pass to UKDEL as my No.392).
Repeated to S. of S.

Your telegram No.88 repeated to the Foreign Office as No.499.

Advence Party of the Commission Secretariat.

I suggest a reply to the effect that the points made in the Commission's official letter have been noted by the Palestine Government which will do everything possible to facilitate the work of the Party.

2. With regard to accommodation and security (see point 14 and paragraph 2 of your telegram), I should be glad to know as soon as possible whether an officer is coming in advance as suggested by you to Bunche. It would be as well if the actual date of arrival of party in Palestine were not (repeat not) publicized, but I imagine that this may not be possible.

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Cypher/OTP

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FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 451

D. 3.10 p.m. 12th February 1948.

12th February 1948.

R. 9.27 p.m. 12th February 1948.

Repeated to Jerusalem
Washington (Saving)

IMMEDIATE SECRET

Addressed to Fereign Office for Colonial Office telegram No. 451 of February 12th., repeated for information to Jerusalem and Saving to Washington.

Colonial Office telegram Brief No. 36 repeated to Jerusalem - Food supplies.

On 3rd February a memorandum was submitted to the Commission giving answers to questions B(10) and (11) on the basis of your telegram No. 459 (of 2nd February) and of paragraph 2 of Jerusalem telegram No. 268 (repeated to Colonial Office as No. 250).

2. In particular, this memorandum contained the following statement:

[Begins]

"The present position as regards food stocks is reported to be satisfactory but security considerations are increasing the difficulties of distribution. In particular, great difficulty is being experienced in the local production and distribution of flour as a result of train rebberies, attacks on road transport, and for other reasons. The flour mills at Haifa were recently closed for three days as the streets were unsafe for traffic. In these circumstances, the Government of Palestine have some to the conclusion that se far as may be possible, local production of adulterated standard flour should be temporarily suspended and replaced by deliveries of imported wheat-flour direct from ship to distribution centres. This would obviate present dependence on local milling facilities and would result in coonomics in handling and transport. It should also be pointed out that as Palestine flour mills are mostly Jewish-owned, the Arab population is dependent on Jewish mills for at least

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approaches it will be increasingly difficult to ensure distribution to Arab consumers of flour produced in Jewish mills. The Government of Palestine have, therefore, asked that the Ministry of Food in the United Kingdom should try to ensure that all ecreal shipments effected prior to the date of the termination of the Mandate should be in the form of wheat-flour, at the rate of 13,000 tens per menth. The possibility of complying with this request is being considered in the United Kingdom but it must be pointed out that if it is found possible to do this, it will add considerably to the cost of such imports".

[Ends].

J. Figures quoted in paragraph J of Foreign Office telegram No. 459 were given to the Commission and it was also stated as follows:

[Begins]

- "(a) His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom will maintain existing sponsorship, procurement and shipping of food and fertiliser supplies for Palestine which will be required up to the date of the termination of the Mandate.
- (b) His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom will accept no direct responsibility for sponsorship, procurement and shipment of supplies which may be required subsequent to that date.
- His Majesty's Government are anxious to give all possible assistance to ensure that the continuity of food supplies for Palestine is maintained, and it is suggested that it might be of assistance to the Commission in assessing the present supply position and in making their arrangements to take ever the responsibility of food supplies for Palestine, if they were to send a representative to the United Kingdom so that he could consult with the Ministry of Food and obtain all the necessary information from the Ministry's various commedity divisions".

[Ends].

the Commission forwarding the schedule enclosed in Jerusalem telegram No. 64 Saving (of 29th January) and saying "you will appreciate that the commedities referred

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te in this schedule are these in respect of which the food control departments of the Government of Palestine is closely concerned, either because such foodstuffs are purchased against quotas arranged with the Ministry of Food or because they are purchased on Government account. As the supply and distribution of other articles of food is effected through normal trade channels, from the supply angle the Government of Palestine has no special responsibility in respect of such foodstuffs".

5. Steps have been taken to correct any misapprehension that may have arisen.

Foreign Office please pass to Colonial Office and Immediate to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 89.

[Cepies sent to the Celenial Office and to Telegraph Scotion, Celenial Office for transmission to Jerusalem].

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En Clair.

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE FEB 1948.

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Mations)

No.457
1276 February, 1948.

D: 6.0 p.m. 12th February, 1948
P: 11.20 p.m. 12th February, 1948.

IMEDIATE.

Addressed Highcoma Jerusalem telegram No.90. of 12th February. Repeated for information to Foreign Office and Saving to Washington.

Following for Gurney from Fletcher Cooke. [Begins].

We have just received from the Commission a copy of a telegram addressed to the Chairman of the Commission from the Jewish Community Council of Haifa. The text of this telegram is as follows.

[Begins].

"Haifa Jewry outraged by murder of Jewish passengers of buses passing Arab Legion camp situated at entrance of Jewish suburb on 3rd February. Arab Legion troops opened fire entirely unprovoked. This is second case on same spot. Our repeated requests to remove Legion from Jewish area remained unheeded by Palestine Government. Request your immediate action to ensure removal Arab Legion from Jewish areas. Jewish Community Council Haifa".

[Ends]

2. Although Commission have merely sent copy of telegram to us without comment it would be helpful if I could have the facts of the situation for communication to the Commission if necessary.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem and Colonial Office both immediate.

[Copies sent to Colonial Office for information and for repetition to Jerusalem].

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En Clair

DEPARTMENTAL.

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

14 FEB 1948

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 486

D. 1.38 p.m. 13th February 1948 R. 8 p.m. 13th February 1948.

13th February 1948.

LAMEDIATE.

Addressed to High Commissioner Jerusalem telegram
No. 95 of February 13th repeated for information to Foreign Office for Colonial Office and Saving to ashington.

Fellowing for Gurney from Fletcher-Cooke.

I have received from the Commission without (repeat without) comment the text of a telegraphic message received by Lisicky from the Central Union of Landlerds of Tel Aviv.

[Begins].

"Doctor Lisicky: United Nations Palestine Commission New York. British army continuing unjust dangerous action exploding houses belonging innocent landlords for alleged acts unknown persons uncontrolled by latters.

Practice threatening spread all over country. Pray immediate despatch Commission Palestine inquire check illegal ruinous action army. Central Union Landlords Shoshany Chairman"

[Ends].

Please pass Immediate to Jerusalem and to Colonial Office.

[Copies sent to Colonial Office and Telegraph Section Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem].

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1948	PALESTINE	16 FEE 1948
Registry Number E2171/4/31 TELEGRAM FROM No. (1 K No.) No.	Accupily Force for To forther (the second from the formal from the formal of a which it is formal of the force (the information in range)	cold by to in play Billing cold by the inplay Billing cold in quiring suitable persons of mind by the
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CYPHER/OTP

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

E 2.71

(From United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nations)

. 16 FEB 1948

No. 504.

D: 3.10 p.m. 14th February, 1948.

14th February, 1948.

R: 8.25 p.m. 14th February, 1948.

Repeated to: Jerusalem,

Washington Saving.

IMMEDIATE

GIANT

Addressed Foreign Office (for Colonial Office) telegram
No. 504 February 14th repeated for information to Jerusalem
and Saving to Washington.

SECRET

Security Force to preserve law and order in Jerusalem.

Following upon my letter to Lisicky of the 30th January in which I informed him that no (repeat no) objection would be raised by His Majesty's Government to the employment by the Commission in a security force for Jerusalem of any volunteers from the British section of the Palestine Police Force, after the termination of their agreements, I have now received a further letter from the Commission reiterating that its general policy would be to employ any such volunteers on their existing terms of service and enquiring whether His Majesty's Government has any suggestions to make as to suitable persons who might be considered for the command of this force.

- 2. Grateful for indication as to whether:
- (a) You would welcome appointment of a British chief of police in Jerusalem.
- (b) If so, whether you are prepared to furnish the Commission with a list of names which would no doubt include not only suitable officers at present serving with the Palestine police forces but possibly others as well.
- 3. It will be appreciated that although the Commission have stated that it is their policy to offer continued employment on the same terms as exist at present this will hardly serve as a basis for the terms to be offered to the new chief of police, inasmuch as this will mean the creation of a new post. Perhaps it might be helpful to the Commission, if you see no objection, to suggest suitable terms for this post.

Foreign Office please pass immediate to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 97 and to Colonial Office.
[Copies sent to Colonial Office for information and for repetition to Jerusalem]

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CYPHER/OTP

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE FILES

(From United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nations)

No. 501.

D: 2.51 p.m. 14th February, 1948.

R: 8.55 p.m. 14th February, 1948. 14th February, 1948.

Repeated to: Jerusalem, Washington Saving.

IMMEDIATE

No. 501 of 14th February repeated Jerusalem and Saving Washington.

SECRET

Jerusalem telegram to Colonial Office No. 354 (repeated here as No. BRIEF 376): food supplies.

As Commission's food supply experts will be in London by Monday February 16th we do not (repeat not) propose to communicate further with the Commission in this matter and presume you will convey information contained in telegram referred to above to Reedman and Neumark on arrival in London.

2. Grateful for indication in due course of any arrangements that may be made.

Foreign Office please pass Immediate to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 96.

[Copies sent to Colonial Office and to Telegraph Section for transmission to Jerusalem]

QQQ

INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

Cypher (O.T.P.)

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunninghos)

D. 27th February, 1948. R. 27th

20.30 hrs.

IMMEDIATE No.488 Secret.

Your telegram No. 626 paragraph 3.

In accordance with past practice, provision has not been made for Collar expenditure for sugar by the same oritorion as for cereals, vide paragraph 5 of my telegram No. 335.

- 2. The present position is that sugar stocks on hand and shipments affort amount to 5,700 tons which presumably hed already been paid for before 26th February, 1948. This will cover requirements up to the end of April. A further 5,000 tons will cover requirements up to the end of June, but I presume that in discussion with U.H.O. representatives in London, procurement has been requested to to 31st August, 1948, in which case a further 5,000 tons will be required.
- dollar requirements as, owing to previous practice and the fact that dollar element is hidden. I cannot therefore undertake to keep within the agreed hard currencies cailing if this commitment in respect of period up to 15th May. I presume that this question will be discussed with the Commission's food supply representative (see your telegrem No. 587).

Copies sent to: -

Foreign Office

Treasury

Bank of England

- Mr. J.C.S. Beith. - Sir E. Mell-Patch.

- Mr. Trevelyon.

- Mr. H. Howe-laston.
- Mr. M.E. Young.
- Mr.R.E. Brooks.
- Miss M. Loughnane.
- Mr. H. Siepmann.
- Mr. Leombe.

OUTWARD TELEGRAM

FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

Cyphon (O.T.P.)

TO PALESTINE (Gen. Sim A. Cumningham) Sent 15th Fobruary, 1948. 14.45 has '

THERETAME

Mo. 587 Score th

Following from MKDML How York to Foreign Office No.501 of Math February for Colonial Office repeated Polosting as No.96 and eavingrum to Washington, Begins.

Jerusalem telegrem to Colonial Office No.354 reposted here as No. BRIEF 376.

Food supplies.

As Commission's Food Supply Experts will be in bonden by Yonday Webrusry 16th we do not repeat not propose to communicate further with the Commission in this matter and presume you will convey deformation contained in telegram reformed to above to Reedman and Memmark on overtral in Lendon.

2. Gratefil for indication in the optimes of may remangements that may be made. Rods.

-:cc pecalupato

Hotel Do:

Sir W. Islayd.

Mr. Rees Williams.

Sir C. Velfries.

Sir C. Velfries.

Mr. Gustrood.

Mr. Restrood.

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Cypher/OTP

TRUSTEESHIP DISTRIBUTION

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations 1943)

No. 517

D. 1.22 p.m. 16th February, 1948 R. 7.00 p.m. 16th February, 1948.

16th February, 1948 Repeated Jerusalem, Washington Saving,

IMMEDIATE SECRET BUILD

Addressed Foreign Office telegram No. 517 of 16th February repeated to Jerusalem and Saving Washington.

Following for Martin Colonial Office from Burns.

I had a long talk with Gerig last night and he informed me that United States would agree to appointment as Governor of Jerusalem of any of the following five persons:

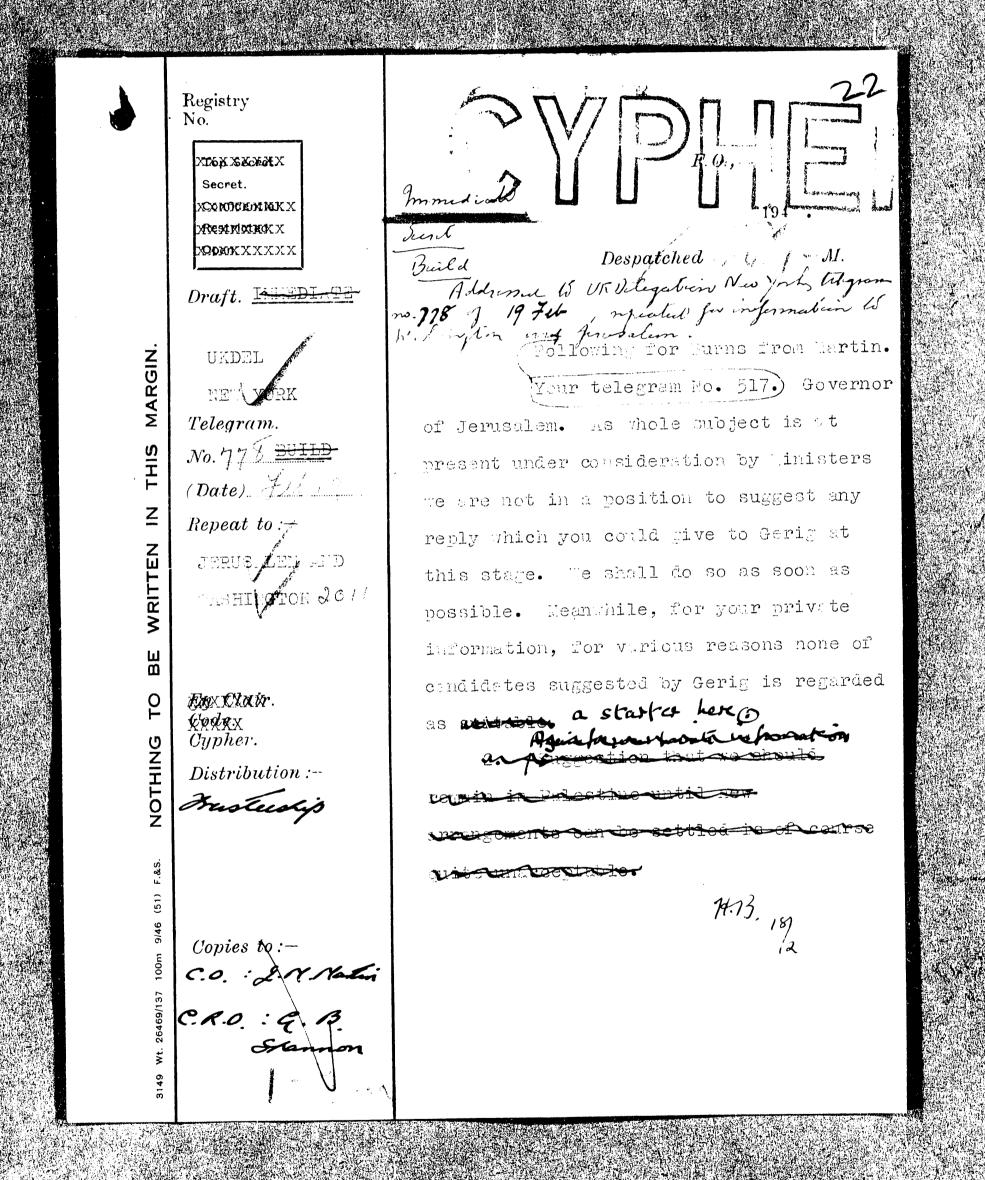
- General Laverack
- Casey of Australia
 Ramaswami Mudalier of India
 Stucki of Switzerland.
- 2. United States would object to Lisicky because of his nationality (although he is considered otherwise suitable) and would similarly oppose any other candidate from Eastern Europe.
- 3. Gerig understands that Canadian Government will oppose appointment of any Canadian citizen.
- 4. Gerig believes French Delegation wish to suggest appointment of French catholic but does not know name.
- 5. Please telegraph early comments on five names mentioned in paragraph 1 above. Presume general objection to Dominions candidate would not apply so strongly to Indian.
- 6. It is clear that Gerig believes there is strong chance of Palestine question being referred back to Assembly for further consideration and he envisages possibility of International Control of whole of Palestine through Trusteeship Council on lines proposed for Jerusalem. For this reason he considers we must select Governor of Jerusalem man capable of assuming control of entire country. Incidentally he assumed that British would agree to remain on in Palestine until new arrangements could be settled.

Foreign Office please pass Immediate to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 98.

[Copy sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for retransmission to Jerusalem].

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Cypher/OTP SECRET

TRUSTEESHIP DISTRIBUTION

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO NEW YORK

(To United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 778
19th February, 1948

D. 2.40 p.m. 19th February, 1948

Repeated to Jerusalem
Washington No. 2011

IMMEDIATE

SECRET

BUILD

Addressed to United Kingdom Delegation New York telegram No. 778 of 19th February repeated for information to Washington and Jerusalem.

Your telegram No. 517.

Following for Burns from Martin.

Governor of Jerusalem. As whole subject is at present under consideration by Ministers we are not in a position to suggest any reply which you could give to Gerig at this stage. We shall do so as soon as possible. Meanwhile, for your private information, for various reasons none of candidates suggested by Gerig is regarded as a starter here.

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(Draft minute to the Prime Minister from the Secretary of State).

E_22.28 17 FEB 1948)

Jerusalem.

I discussed with Mr. Rees-Williams this afternoon the problem of protecting the city of Jerusalem after the withdrawal of British troops. Mr. Rees-Williams pointed out that, according to the United Nations' plan for Palestine, the special regime for Jerusalem will not come into operation until the 1st October. The British Mandate terminates on 15th May, and British Troops will have left Jerusalem by the end of May. Even if we can assume that the United Nations regime could be smoothly established in October, there would thus be an interval of four months in which no provision was made for the security of the city and the Holy Places.

2. We agreed to recommend to you that H.M.Government should initiate an attempt to persuade Arabs and Jews to treat Jerusalem as an open city and thus to isolate it from the fighting which will almost inevitably take place in Palestine after our departure. If you agree, we might, begin by approaching the Arab Governments with this suggestion, pointing out to them that any Arab violence in Jerusalem would tend to alienate the sympathy of the Christian world from their cause.

3. The next step would be for the Colonial Secretary to inform the Security Council that we had been giving thought to this problem, and to propose that they should follow up our action with the Arab Governments by passing a resolution in favour of the treatment of Jerusalem as an open city and by using their influence with all parties concerned to that end.

It is not at present clear what form of administration in Jerusalem would stand the best chance of being respected and so 68533

of/

TO TELL 1015

of maintaining the concept of an open city. The most natural course would be for the Security Council to authorise the Trusteeship Council to appoint the U.N.Governor immediately and to set up the special regime (with an international security force) immediately after our departure instead of waiting until the 1st October. It is, however, not certain how the Arabs would react to this proposal. If they were to say that they would be willing to regard Jerusalem as an open city on condition that it was not placed under U.N. Administration, but not otherwise, alternative methods of administering the city pending a general settlement in Palestine would have to be considered. It is possible that both sides would accept the idea of an open city and would indicate their preference for some form of interim government involving the retention of a British element. Such agreement between Arabs and Jews might make it possible for H.M.G. to accept an arrangement on these lines.

5. In suggesting that we should propose the declaration of Jerusalem as an open city, we are thinking not in terms of the present municipality, from which many of the Holy places are excluded, but of the somewhat larger area for which a special regime is provided in the U.N. plan.

Jan Bert

12/11/48

PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-SION OF THE PUBLIC ICE, LONDON MINISTER MINISTER

A meeting has been awanged at 11-0 am to morrow,

10, Downing Street,

Whitehall.

The same of the same

toph February -

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2228 4 31

15th February, 1948.

My Jear John

The Prime Minister has seen the Secretary of State's Minute PM/48/23 of the 12th February about the protection of the city of Jerusalem after the withdrawal of British troops. He would like to discuss the proposal contained in this minute with the Secretary of State, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Minister of Defence, and Mr. Rees Williams. Perhaps we could arrange a time on the telephone to-morrow morning.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Foggarty, Richard Wood, and D.M. Smith; perhaps you would send a copy of the Secretary of State's Minute to those of the Ministers concerned who have not received it?

Lours wer,

J.P.E.C. Henniker, Esq., M.C., Foreign Office.

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Next Paper.

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17 FEB 1948

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(Minutes.)

When we decided to ask the U.K. Delegation to send this series of papers to Arab posts for communication to Arab Governments, we had only seen P(NY) 1 - 3. We have now received Nos.4 - 17. (copies I have looked through these documents in E 1180). and I certainly think that the Arab Govts. should not be given -

(a) No. $\overline{4}$, which includes the outline of our plan for military withdrawal;

(b) No.16, which contains the confidential communication to the Commission of the Cabinet's decision that the possibility of an overlapping period longer than 15 days might be examined when the Commission come to London.

I also think that the last sentence of No.14 is unsuitable for communication to the Arab Govts. I understand that the Colonial Office would wish to add Nos.6 and 17 to this list of exceptions if it is decided in general to give the series to the Arab Govts.

It would clearly be awkward to give the Arabs a numbered series of papers with obvious gaps, and they would certainly suspect, when they found that some of the numbers were omitted, that we had something to conceal from them. I do not think there is much force in the argument of para.2 of the New York Telegram within, apart from the last sentence. The point in para.3 would require careful consideration. But I am inclined to think, solely on the ground that communication of a broken series might do more harm than good, that we should reverse our earlier decision.

The documents are at present on their way to Arab posts by bag, and no instructions have yet been sent as to their use. We could authorise H.M.

Representatives/

30471 1.0 F

Representatives to make whatever use they wished of the material in these documents, subject to the necessary exceptions, in their general contacts on the subject of Palestine with the Governments to which they are accredited.

> #Becker 18th February, 1948.

This originally arose from a request by Ir Famali when he was here.
I agree with Mr Reeley

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WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to the United 2662

No. 523
D. 6. 12 p.m. 16th February 1948
R. 11. 34 p.m. 16th February 1948

Repeated to Jerusalem Washington Saving

IMPORTANT CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 523 February 16th repeated for information to Jerusalem and saving to Washington

Your telegram No. 691.

Palestine.

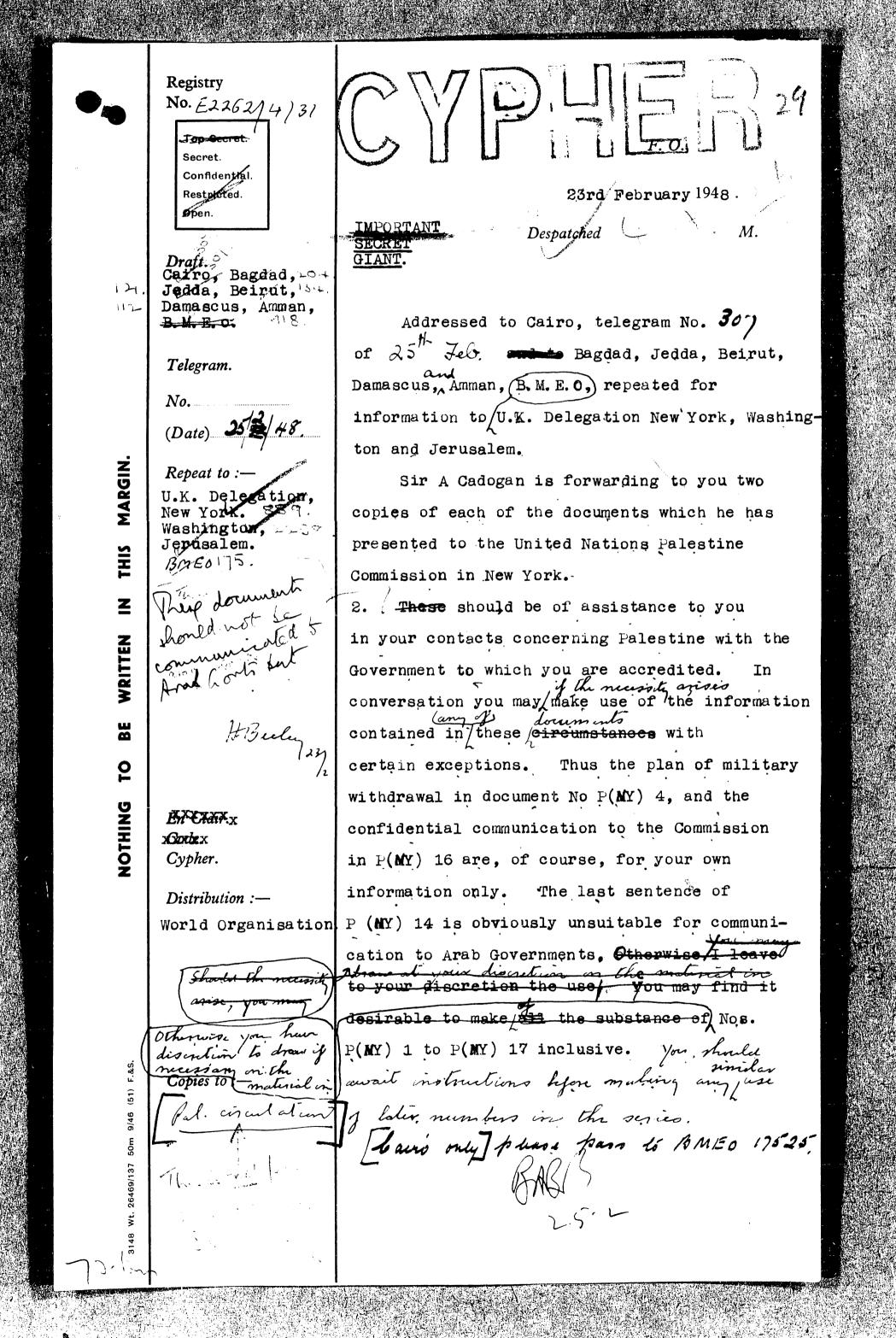
I am sending urgently two copies each of all documents in question to posts mentioned in paragraph 2 of your telegram under reference and also to British Middle East Office Cairo.

- 2. But I am bound to say that I feel some misgiving at idea of communicating these documents to Arab Governments. As you know, they include information about Arab military activity in Palestine, divulgation of which to Arabs would surely risk compromising our sources of information as well as emphasising the fact that we are the Commission's principal source of information concerning Arab disregard of United Nations authority. They also include plan of military withdrawal which has been communicated to Commonwealth representatives here though not (repeat not) to United States Delegation.
- 3. In any case if we are to communicate these documents to Arab Governments I do not think we could withhold them from Jewish Agency without incurring charge of partiality.
- 4. I suggest therefore that His Majesty's Missions should not (repeat not) communicate the documents to respective governments pending your consideration of above points. There would however be no objection to their using them as background and to correct any misstatements.
- Meanwhile, and in view of close association of Pakistan with the Arab cause in this matter, I am not (repeat not) communicating documents to Pakistan or Indian delegations.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 102.

[Copy sent to Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem]

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Cypher/OTP.

No. E 2262/4/37.

Secret.

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO CAIRO.

No. 307.

D. 4.0 a.m. 26th February 1948.

25th February 1948.

AND ALSO TO: BAGDAD, NO. 204;
JEDDA, NO. 121;
BEIRUT, NO. 134;
DAMASCUS, NO. 112;
AME:AN, NO. 118.

Repeated to: New York (U.K. Delegation), No.889; Washington, No.2258; Jerusalem; B.M.E.O. Cairo, No.175.

IMPORTANT.

SECRET.

GIANT.

Addressed to Cairo telegram No.307 of 25th February, Bagdad, Jedda, Beirut, Damascus and Amman; repeated for information to B.M.E.O. Cairo, United Kingdom Delegation New York, Washington and Jerusalem.

Sir A. Cadogan is forwarding to you two copies of each of the documents which he has presented to the United Nations Palestine Commission in New York.

2. These documents should not be communicated to Arab Governments but should be of assistance to you to Arab Governments but should be of assistance to you in your contacts concerning Palestine with the Government to which you are accredited. In conversation you may if the necessity arises make use of the information contained in any of these documents with certain exceptions. Thus the plan of military withdrawal in document No.P(NY) 4, and the confidential communication to the Commission in No.P(NY) 16 are, of course, for your own information only. The last sentence of No.P(NY) 14 is obviously unsuitable for communication to Arab Governments. Otherwise you have discretion to draw if necessary on the material in Nos. P(NY) 1 to P(NY) 17 inclusive. You should await instructions before making any similar use of later numbers in the series.

No. 17525. Please pass to B.M.E.O.

W.W. W

INDEXED

E P.W.

2262 4 31

75872/169/15 Pt.II.

20th February, 1948.

Confidential

pro Pours ours

No deas wrot.

So far as I can ascertain, we were not consulted before your telegram No. 691 was sent to the United Kingdom Delegation in New York, regarding the supply to the Arab Governments of copies of documents communicated by the United Kingdom Delegation to the Delegation of the United States and the English Speaking Dominions.

The notice that the Delegation in their telegram No. 523 have expressed certain misgivings about this and, for reasons which Mathieson has explained to Beeley, we should see objection to the communication of all such documents to the Arab States. We hope that on reconsideration the proposal may be abandoned; but if not, we shall be grateful if we could be allowed an opportunity to comment before any further instructions are issued.

h sierz /17.17a/2 (J.M.Martin)

We should ruse no Objection to Communication
to 4.17. Representatives for their own in formation
[1717]

Michael R. Wright, Mso., OMG.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

1 2 3 4 5 6 Reference:-

FO 371/68533

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FO 371/68535

IGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE DUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-ERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC D OFFICE, LONDON Ars. Meyerson's press confirence held at Lake Success yesterday (January 26) amounted to an appeal for U.S. Military Intervention in favour of the Jews.

The Jewish Agency is now playing an unashamedly double game. It claims simultaneously that military action taken by Haganah is in support of the nited Nations' decision while describing British efforts to carry out their part of that decision as aggression against the Jews and wilful obstruction of the United Lations. It is interesting that at the same time the basis of Russian press and radio attacks on the Arabs has been broadened to include all Arab leaders and that the latter have been promoted from dupes and stooges to principals, or at least willing accomplices of the British. It is now clear that the Soviet Government has been attracted by the opportunities which a Jewish State, established with its blessing and, infiltrated by its agents, could provide for Russian penetration and consolidation in the widdle East.

Fee Musica

fectoreland

Russian and satellite sponsorship of illegal immigration, the granting of exit permits to Jews when all other emwigration from Russia is forbidden; the inclusion of Communist agents in considerable numbers in the latest illegal immigrant ships; all point to growing soviet interest and influence in the new Jewish State.

1090/2/31

The attempts of the Jewish Agency to play off America against Britain and to force the former to arm the Jews on a wholesale scale can only cause satisfaction to one major power. No one except Soviet Russia can benefit from such a policy.

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POLITICAL DISTRIBUTION

FROM MOSCOW TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Sir M. Peterson No. 122 D. 5.02 p.m. 22nd January, 1948.

22nd January, 1948.

R. 6.03 p.m. 22nd January, 1948.

Repeated to Washington

Cairo Jerusalem Jedda

Amman Bagdad Beirut

Damascus

RESTRICTED

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 122 of January 22nd, repeated to Washington, Cairo, Jerusalem, Jedda, Amman, Bagdad, Beirut, and Damascus.

(Foreign Office please repeat to all posts as my telegrams Nos. 25, 5, unnumbered, 5,5,5,5, and 5 respectively.)

my telegram No. 120 and 121.

Though to some extent foreshadowed by Trud article of January 7th reported in my telegram No. 44 these outright attacks on Arab leaders and their policy mark significant change from the line hiterto followed by Soviet commentator. Already in November, writer had found it necessary to ascribe increase in anti-Soviet sentiment in the Arab world to influence of British propaganda on certain reactionary Arab elements. Now, however it is the Arab leaders themselves who, from being dupes, appear to be in process of elevation to the rank of willing accomplices in British imperialistic plans in the Middle East.

2. Whether when they decided to support the partition of Palestine, the Soviet Government had already written off the Arabs or whether they did so after observing subsequent reaction of the Arab world I cannot say. But it looks as though they have now decided that they can expect little from the Arab states and that an eventual Jewish state even though at first dependent on American capital, would ultimately prove most reliable and effective channel for Soviet penetration of the Middle East.

[Repeated by Foreign Office to posts as requested.]

[Copies sent to Telegraph Section C.O. for repetition to Jerusalem.]

2 2 2

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FROM BUCHAREST TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Mr. Sarell No.93

D.6.6 p.m. 24th January, 1948.

R.7.2 p.m. 24th January, 1948.

23rd January, 1948. Repeated to Jerusalem

Sofia Washington Moscow

SECRET

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No.93 of January 23rd, repeated to Jerusalem, Washington, Sofia and Moscow.

Your telegram No.76.

Communist agents on Pan York and Pan Crescent.

All bodies mentioned in paragraph (b) of your telegram are militant Communist organisations.

- 2. I should be grateful for names and discriptions of any non-Jews who sailed by these ships.
- 3. Organisation mentioned in paragraph (f) is not a Roumanian one and appears to be a Soviet one.

Foreign Office please repeat to Jerusalem, Washington, and Moscow as my telegrams Nos.6, 21, 16 respectively.

[Repeated to Washington, Moscow and copies sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for retransmission to Jerusalem.]

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WORLD ORGANICATION DISTRIBUTION

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGH OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nations)

No. 544

D. 5.26 p.m. 17th February,

17th February, 1948.

R.10.50 p.m. 17th February, 1948.

Repeated to Jerusalem Cyprus Washington Saving

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MOST IMMEDIATE

GIANT

18 FER 1940)

Addressed Foreign Office telegram No. 544
February 17th repeated for information to Jerusalem,
Cyprus and Saving to Washington.

Your telegram No. 656 and my telegram No. 417. Palestine.

Colonial Secretary is giving a press conference at Lake Success to-morrow probably at about 12 noon local time. It will be useful if material referred to in your telegram under reference could reach us before then.

2. We should also be particularly glad of material asked for in my telegram No. 417, particularly corroboration of reports which have received wide publicity here of discovery of Communist agents among illegal immigrants at Cyprus. Reply would also be useful from Governor of Cyprus to paragraph 2 of Jerusalem telegram to me No. 412 repeated to him as No. 22.

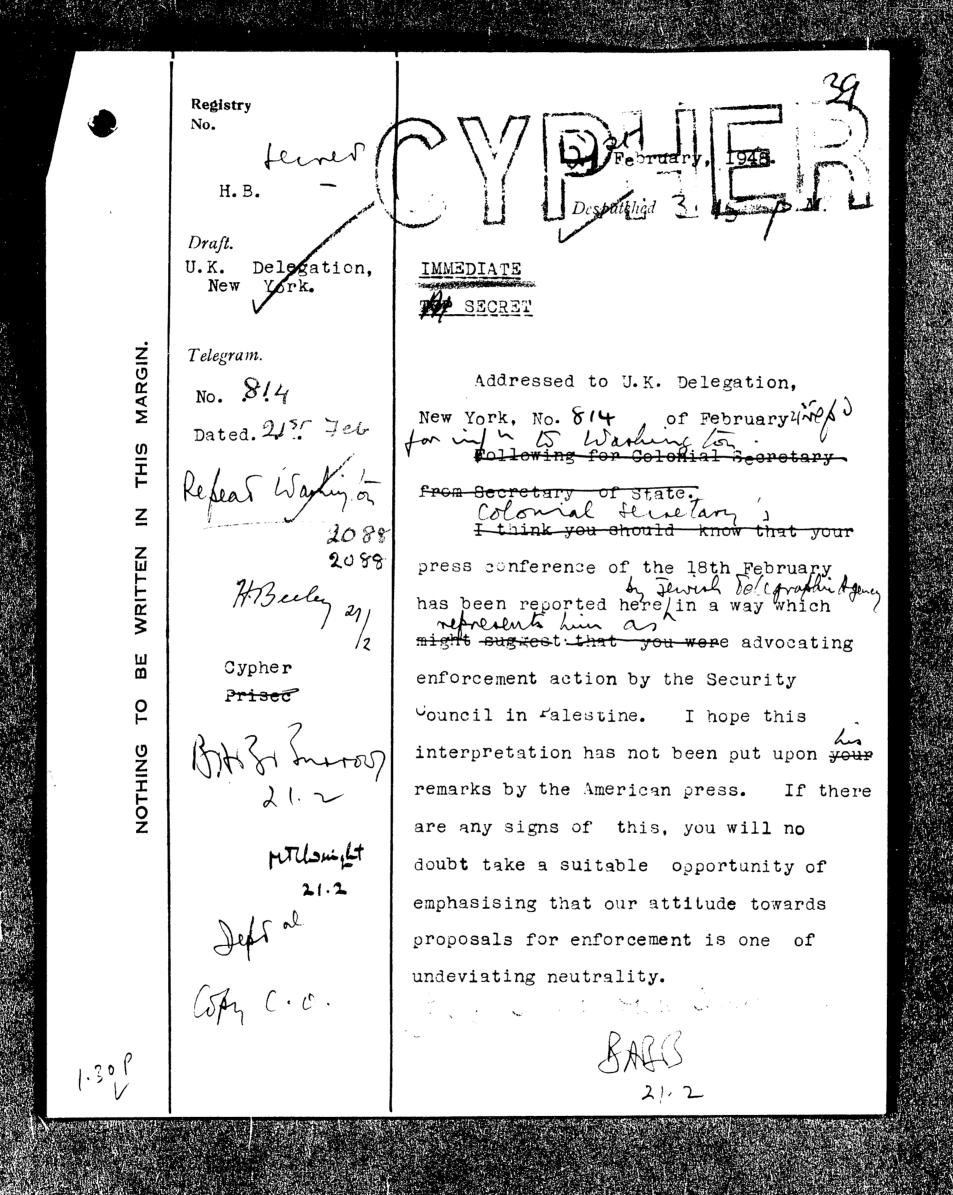
Please pass to Jerusalem and Cyprus both Immediate as my telegrams Nos. 105 and 1 respectively.

[Copies sent to Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem and Cyprus.]

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Cypher/OTP SECRET

DEPARTMENTAL

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO NEW YORK

(To United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 814 21st February, 1948

D. 3.15 p.m. 21st February, 1948

Repeated to Washington No. 2088

IMMEDIATE

SECRET

Addressed to United Kingdom Delegation New York telegram No. 814 of 21st February repeated for information to Washington.

Colonial Secretary's press conference of the 18th February has been reported here by Jewish Telegraphic Agency in a way which represents him as advocating enforcement action by the Security Council in Palestine. I hope this interpretation has not been put upon his remarks by the American press. If there are any signs of this, you will no doubt take a suitable opportunity of emphasising that our attitude towards proposals for enforcement is one of undeviating neutrality.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat]
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Registry Draft. U.K. DELEGATION NEW YORK Telegram. (Date)...Repeat to:—

25th February,

 of

My telegram No. 814.

Presumably as a result of the report mentioned in my telegram under reference, six Labour members have put down the following motion:-

"That this House welcomes the statement of the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the necessity for an international force to support the authority of the Palestine Commission when British forces are withdrawn; and urges that His Majesty's Government should offer to hand over their military installations and accumulations of military stores of every kind in Palestine, for the use and equipment of this international force".

May we have text or summary of the

Colonial Secretary's Press Conference.

Despatched Addressed to New York telegram No.

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Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO NEW YORK

(To United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 876

February 25th, 1948.

D. 2.50 p.m. February 25th, 1948.

DMEDIATE SECRET

My telegram No. 814.

Presumably as a result of the report mentioned in my telegram under reference, six Labour members have put down the following motion:-

"That this House welcomes the statement of the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the necessity for an international force to support the authority of the Palestine Commission when British forces are withdrawn; and urges that His Majesty's Government should offer to hand over their military installations and accumulations of military stores of every kind in Palestine, for the use and equipment of this international force".

2. May we have text or summary of the Colonial Secretary's Press Conference.

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WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nations)

18 FEB 1948

No. 543. D: 5.50 p.m. 17th February, 1948. 17th February, 1948. R:12.30 a.m. 18th February, 1948.

Repeated to: Jerusalem, washington Saving.

IREDI.TS GIANT

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 543 of February 17th repeated for information to Jerusalem and Saving to Washington.

Palestine.

Following is summary of Commission's first special report to Security Council dated 16th February.

- 2. Report opens with a statement of main considerations
- (a) Extreme gravity and anticipated worsening of situation in Palestine and fact that not only the future well-being of people of Palestine but also authority and effectiveness of United Nations are deeply involved.
- (b) Commission will be unable to establish security and maintain law and order without which implementation of General assembly's resolution is impossible unless military forces of adequate strength are available to Commission when it assumes responsibility.
- (c) Powerful Arab interests inside and outside Palestine are engaged in deliberate effort to alter by force settlement envisaged by General Assembly.
- For these reasons Commission refers security aspect to Security Council but intends to continue with such other preparatory work essential to implementation of the plan as is possible without assistance of Security Council.
- 4. Section II of report deals with security situation to-day based on information received from mandatory power Jewish I gency and Arab Higher Committee. Communication to Secretary-General from Arab High Committee of February 6th and official reports from United Kingdom Delegation to Commission dated 4th and 9th of February are extensively quoted.
- 5. Main factors governing security situation to-day are:
- (a) Organised efforts by strong Arab elements inside and outside Palestine to prevent implementation of plan and thwart

/its

its objectives by threats and acts of violence including armed incursions into Palestine territory.

- (b) Irresponsible acts of violence by certain Jewish elements tending to worsen security situation notwithstanding general support of plan by Jewish community in Palestine.
- (c) Complications arising from fact that mandatory power which retains responsibility for law and order until termination of mandate is engaged in liquidation of its administration and preparation for military evacuation.
- 6. Section III dealing with security situation on termination of mandate summarises policy announced by mandatory power as regards:
- (a) Exclusive responsibility for law and order and defence against aggression until termination of mandate.
- (b) Arms ammunition or military equipment not to be supplied to any individual or organisation in Palestine except certain police forces.
- (c) Formation of militias as envisaged in Assembly resolution not to be allowed before termination of mandate.
- (d) Intentions of mandatory power as announced to Commission in respect of:
 - (1) British armed forces and their rôle after May 15th.
 - (II) Arab Legion.
 - (III) Palestine Police Force, its equipment arms and stores.
 - (TV) Recently organised Mishmar and Arab Municipal Police (Commission refers to possibility that armed Arab municipal force may prove hostile to Commission and oppose implementation of plan).
- 7. Section IV covers problem of security with special reference to militias. Principal points are:
- (a) Commission is determined to make every possible effort to seek co-operation of Palestine Arabs.
- (b) Nevertheless attitude of Arab Higher Committee must be faced and Commission would not, in practice, be able to set up provisional councils of government in Arab State or establish Arab militia.
- (c) Unless Commission can go to Palestine well in advance of termination of mandate "possibility of exhausting every effort to consult with Arabs will be lost".

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- (d) According to Jewish Agency establishment of Jewish militia before termination of mandate would be technically possible but refusal of mandatory power to allow prior formation will entail delay in implementation of plan and renders more difficult problem of security of Jewish State after May 15th.
- (e) It will be contrary to United Nations plan for Commission to use Jewish militia for preventive or retaliatory action beyond border of Jewish State however necessary.
- (f) If power in Arab area should be seized by hostile forces provisions of plan in regard to both Arab State and economic union will be unfulfilled and establishment of Jewish State and of Jerusalem international regime gravely jeopardised.
- (g) If exercise of Commission's authority cannot extend to areas of both States and Jerusalem an entirely new situation arises to which Commission draws attention of Security Council.
- 8. Bection V on City of Jerusalem stresses:
- (a) Impossibility of defending area if British security forces are not replaced by another non-Palestinian force.
- (b) World-wide repercussions of communal strife in Jerusalem.
- (c) Effect on United Nations prestige of failure to preserve peace.
- (d) To invite militia of either state to defend Jerusalem would be contrary to United Nations plan and might provoke religious war.
- 9. Section VI on provisions of plan which cannot be fulfilled without assistance of an armed force refers to impossibility of delimiting boundaries in face of refusal of protection by British security forces on ground that such protection would be tantamount to implementation of plan. Commission could not consider delimitation relying "on security force of one party only." Similarly its work that of [sic] members of Preparatory Economic Commission and staff and their freedom of action cannot depend exclusively on protection received from one side.
- 10. Section VII. Implications for the Commission of the security problem on date of termination of mandate. Except in areas still under British military occupation there would be no legal armed force other than totally inadequate local Erab or Jewish Police for maintenance of law and order and no legally constituted overall security organisation in either State. Commission would therefore be required to step into a "security vacuum" in the very midst of intensification of internecine

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warfare following cessation of British responsibility for law and order and civil administration. Commission has approached mandatory power to determine whether adequate preparatory steps may be taken to enable militia envisaged in plan to undertake responsibility for law and order immediately following termination of mandate. If policy of mandatory power does not permit this, armed organisations in both communities will continue to recruit and on termination of mandate "more or less disciplined and unified underground forces will abruptly emerge as security forces and probably be arrayed against each other in organised combat".

Il. Schedule to be followed in evacuation of British troops is another vital factor in security problem. In Commission's view military evacuation should take place "with particular regard for significance of adjacent frontiers in the matter of security in such manner as to ensure that substantial areas in both harb and Jewish zones will be free of British armed forces at the time of termination of mandate and to the extent possible on basis of equal consideration for Arab and Jewish zones alike". Commission has not yet taken up this special aspect of security problem with mandatory power.

12. Section VIII headed "Conclusion" sums up Commission's position. For reasons set out in report Commission has decided to refer to Security Council "problem of providing that armed assistance which alone would enable Commission to discharge its responsibilities on termination of mandate because it is convinced that there is no step which it can take under resolution of Assembly to improve security situation in Palestine between now and termination of mandate." Compelling need is emphasised for prompt action in order to avert bloodshed and assist implementation of plan. "A basic issue of international order is involved. A dangerous and tragic precedent will have been established if force, or threat of force, is to prove an effective deterrent to the will of the United Nations." Hence considered view of Commission is that "security forces of mandatory power must on withdrawal be replaced by an adequate non-Palestinian force which will assist law-abiding elements in both Arab and Jewish communities organised under general direction of Commission in maintaining order and security in Palestine and thereby enabling the Commission to carry out the recommendations of the General Assembly." Without this assistance the Commission is firmly convinced it cannot discharge the responsibilities entrusted to it by the Assembly.

Please repeat Immediate to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 104.

[Copy sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem].

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INWARD TELEGRAM.

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES.

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Cyphor (O.T.P.)

PROM PALESTINE (General Sir A, Cunningham)

D. 21st February, 1943, R. 21st " "

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MOST IMPODIATE

No. 429 Top Secret.

Addressed to Marted Pingues Deligation Newton (Westington plasse panu).
Repeated to S. of H.

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Reference No. 104, paregraph 7(0).

It would appear that the Commission to non appreciate that all higher conced of Araba in inflamming as being exercised outside the Country. Call settes menter of anab Higher Committee now here is (TDr.) Rhalids, who is mainly encoured with health and welfare services. He member of the Arab Higher Committee or inceed any Arab other body will give any reclaim without first referring to the multi. Jamed bands which have entered from other countries are being constrained from the occurrates there which they came. It is difficult the matery to see how the arrival of the Commission in Puleating well in odvance of termination of the Mandate would enable them to consult with more Araba that matter. Although I ocumed hold our much hope, it . I would seem that their bast approach could be incompt the Auch Government and the Ares hengile bofore they are then been once they come and disturbences fauned by their control but atomics, matters views-vis in asshe acold of theh were distinctly

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Distributed id:

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Mr. S.B. V. Luke.

Brikadier Cornwell-Jones.

Commander Everabed.

Mr. A.J. Newling.

Mr. D.F.C. Blunt.

Mr. W. Russell-Edmunds.

Mr. P.N.N. Symett.

Captain Maunaell.

Captain Maunaell.

Captain D.H. Hall-Thompson.

Mr. G.C.B. Dodds.

Brikadier J.R.C. Hamilton.

Brikadier L.L. Wansbrough-Jones.

Lt. Col. M.M. Charteris.

Mr. B.F. Picknett.

Mr. F.C. Rennle.

Air Commodors Brook.

Group Captain V.H.B. Roth.

Mr. B.A.B. Burrows.

Mr. Booley.

Mr. J.C. Robertson.

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COPY FOR H.BEELEY, ESQ., EASTERN DEPARTMENT, FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1

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E 2023

Nº 52/174/48

13th February, 1948.

CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Denis,

I enclose, for your information, a copy of a letter from the High Commissioner for Palestine to Martin at the Colonial Office, which was forwarded to Trafford Smith on the High Commissioner's instructions.

I am also sending a copy to Harold Beeley in the Foreign Office.

Yours ever,

(P.S.Falla)

W.D.Allen, Esq., British Embassy, Washington. FO 371/68533

IGHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE DUCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-ERMISSION OF THE PUBLIC D OFFICE, LONDON

From: General Sir Alan Cunningham

2nd February 1948.

I should perhaps place it on record that during the past week I received Rabbi Silver for an interview at his request and also went over to Shuneh for lunch with King Abdullah, also at his urgent request, though of course unofficially.

I do not know whether Dr. Silver is known in the Colonial Office. I had not met him before. He is very American and of impressive appearance for a Jew, tall and robust. He is without doubt a forceful character, but I doubted whether his Jewishness really took pride of place over his Americanism. Time will show as he is tipped for Vice President to Weizmann's presidency in the Jewish State.

He surprised me by telling me that he is leaving Palestine for America shortly and will not return for the Congress meeting here billed for March 1st.

He spent some time trying to persuade me he was not anti-British.

The main points he wished to put over to me were the need for the Commission to come to Palestine as soon as possible, and the removal of what he called the "blanket" of British obstruction to the formation of the Jewish State.

He reacted well to the suggestion that whatever else happened it was essential that the safety of Jerusalem should be ensured.

He is convinced that some form of international force is required in Palestine and favours it being found from small powers so as to exclude Russia.

He was very full of the Jewish accusations that our security forces are not sincere in their statements of impartiality and are not protecting the Jews. I was able to give him some home truths on this point, of which we had plainly been kept in ignorance.

He left remarking to my Private Secretary that he was now clear that it was a time for cod heads and not hot ones, so perhaps we can hope that he applies this remedy to his own head first!

The visit to Abdullah was more to meet his desire to maintain a personal friendship, but I had a long conversation with him on the present position.

He said the rejection of the Iraqi treaty had undoubtedly been engineered by Egypt, who really was only interested in her own affairs, but would use the other Arab States to her own advantage and then wash her hands of them when she had obtained satisfaction.

He was clearly most distressed at our leaving Palestine and asked me once or twice if we were not going to stay on whatever happened. On the Palestine question he was gloomy. He said that every Arab criminal in the Mid-East was pouring in there and that he had told an ex-member of the Arab Higher Committee whom he thought had been sent to spy out the land in Transjordan, that they were creating chaos by letting these people in, and the latter were ready to shoot anyone, including Arabs, for loot. He had been questioned closely by the same man as to the intentions of the present treaty revision and he had replied as far as he was concerned, it was to strengthen his connection with England.

J.M. Martin, Esq., C.B., C.V.O., Colonial Office. London, S.W.1.

He told me that if he could have got there in time he would personally have stopped the first incursion of Fauzi Kawakji's men through Transjordan into Palestine, and said he would see there would be no more such incidents. (NB It appears however that he has been unable to stop a second incursion).

He described the areas in Palestine where he himself had a following as being Bablus and Hebron and made some non-commital remarks about what action he would take when we went.

He complained of the exodus of Palestinian Arabs into Transjordan through fear of the present security situation. He said they were all arriving thoroughly anti-British and hence might give him trouble.

When I made some remark as to the essential need to safeguard Jerusalem, he immediately asked whether he should take it over when we left. I replied hastily that I was sure satisfactory arrangements would be made.

I took the opportunity to bring up the question of the complete intransigeance of all the Arabs at present and the folly of their rejection of any policy of negotiation or conference. They had a strong case against the details of the present partition plan. He said he fully agreed but deplored his position of standing alone in the Arab league as a supporter of such a policy.

Although he was quite cheerful and the usual charming host I gained the impression that he is most unhappy at the turn events are taking.

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Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL DISTRIBUTION

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nations)

No. 561.

D. 7.43.p.m.February 18th. 1948.

February 18th.1948.

R. 1.10.a.m. Webruary 19th. 1948.

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ILMEDIATE

SECRET.

19 FEB 1943 1

Addressed High Commissioner Jerusalem telegram No. 107 February 18th, repeated for information to Foreign Office (for Colonial Office) and Saving Jashington.

Following for Gurney from Fletcher Cooke.

[Begins].

Your telegram 392 (repeated to Colonial Office No. 367) advance party of the Commission's Secretariat.

Bunche informed me this morning that Commission have considered possibility of transport and accommodation officer going in advance but have reached conclusion that this is not practicable. It has now been decided that an advance party of six persons will leave New York by air on Friday 20th February and expect to arrive at Lydda on Monday 22nd February. The party consists of Ascarate (Deputy Secretary to the Commission), Colonel Roscher Lund (Hilitary Observer), Ghosh (Economics) and another who has not yet been chosen together with two secretaries lrs. Tobin and Hiss Audrey Owen.

- 2. Commission fully appreciate your difficulties as regards accommodation and security but will be most grateful for any arrangements that can be made.
- 3. Passport authorities are telegraphing formal request for special endorsements in respect of the six persons referred to above but in view of delay which has occurred through these channels in the past I should be most grateful for earliest indication as to whether these endorsements may be granted.

[Ends].

Foreign Office please pass Immediate to Jerusalen.

[Copies sent to Colonial Office and to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem].

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COLONIAL OFFICE TELEGRAM

Cypher (0.T.P.)

INDLXED

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

D. 21st February, 1948. R. 21st "

10.40 hrs.

IMMEDIATE

No. 428 Secret

Addressed to UKDEL, No. 449 (Washington please pass).
Repeated to the S. of S. Washington No. 110.

Your telegrams No. 107 and No. 113.

Advance party of United Nationa Secretariat.

No (repeat no) objection to grant of visas.

Copy sent tox-

Foreign Office

- Mr. H. Beeley

To a whome on E2432

+ J. M. Markin BD

The 2124

Xel. New York 783

Roll W'York 2024

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8, a above on E2432

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FROM NEW YORK TO FOR MIGH OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nations)

No. 563

D. 5.23 p.m. 18th Februa y, 1948

DEPARTM HITAL

18th February, 1948.

R.11.25 p.m. 18th February, 1948

Repeated to Jerusalem Washington Saving

MOST EL EDIATE

E 2066

SECRET

Addressed Foreign Office telegram No. 565 18th February repeated for information to Jerusalem and Saving Jashington.

Governor of Jerusalem.

Following for Martin, Colonial Office, from Burns.

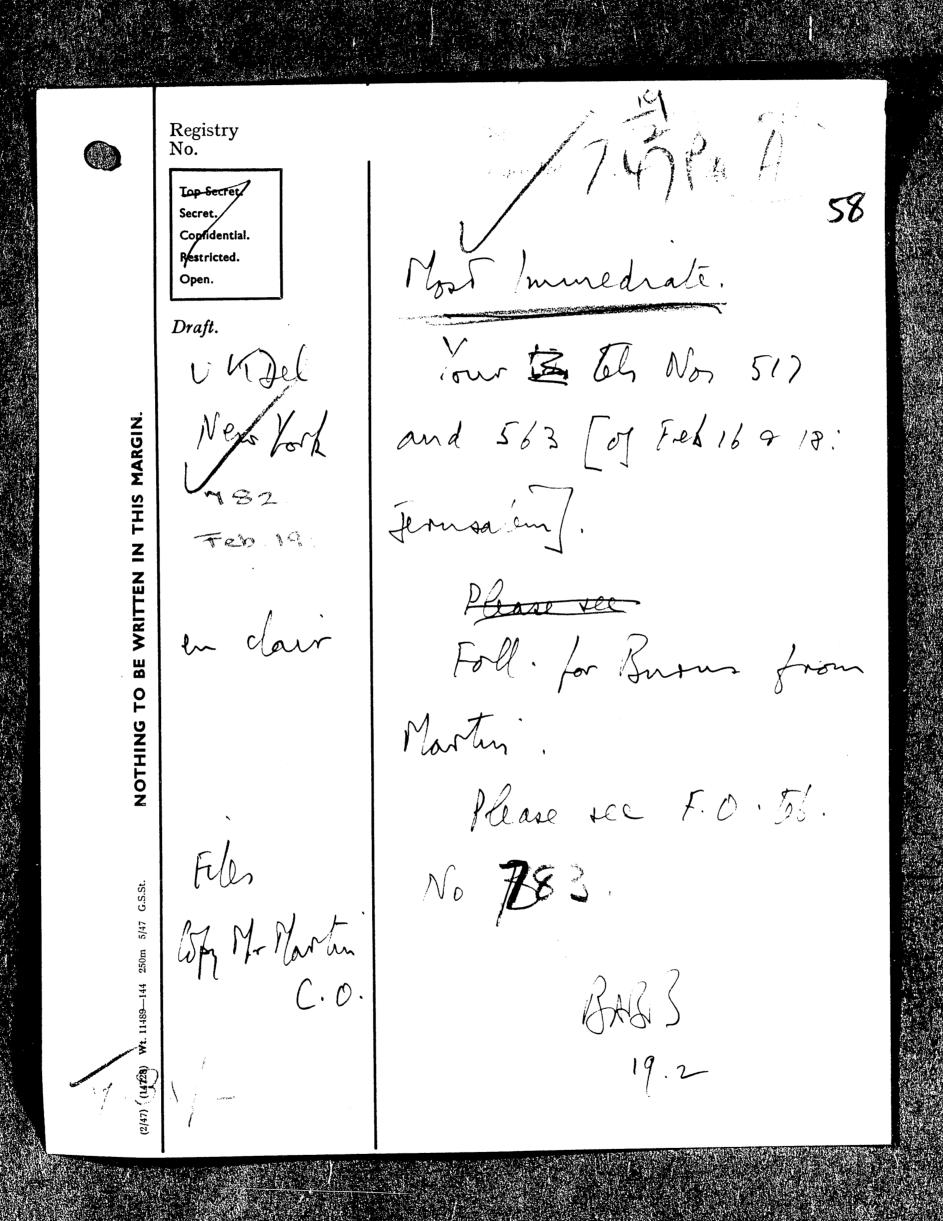
Ryckmans has just told me that he had heard from a prominent Jew that Fitzgerald would be acceptable to all in Jerusalem as Governor. I told him that His Majesty's Government would not agree to appointment of a British Governor. He argued that as he was an Irishman an exception might be made and asked me to put proposal to my Government as he felt this would be most hopeful proposal yet made. Grateful earliest reply.

- 2. I have also been speaking to Jayre who suggested following two names
- (a) Commander Jackson of Australia now with United Nations Secretariat.
- (b) Drury of Canada. Grateful for comments on these two names.
- J. All members of Trusteeship Council are dining to-morrow (Thursday) night [?gp.omitted] Bayre for private discussion regarding appointment of Governor and informal decision may possibly be taken on this occasion. Grateful therefore for earliest reply to this and to my telegram No. 517. Reply should reach me by 1800 hours to-morrow New York time.

Foreign Office please pass Immediate to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 108.

[Copies sent to Colonial Office for Mr. Martin and for repetition to Jerusalem.]

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En Clair.

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FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO NEW YORK

(To United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nations

No. 782.

D. 7.47. p.m. February 19th. 1948.

February 19th, 1948.

LOST IMMEDIATE

Your telegrams Nos. 517 and 563 [of February 16th and 18th: Jerusalem].

Following for Burns from Martin.

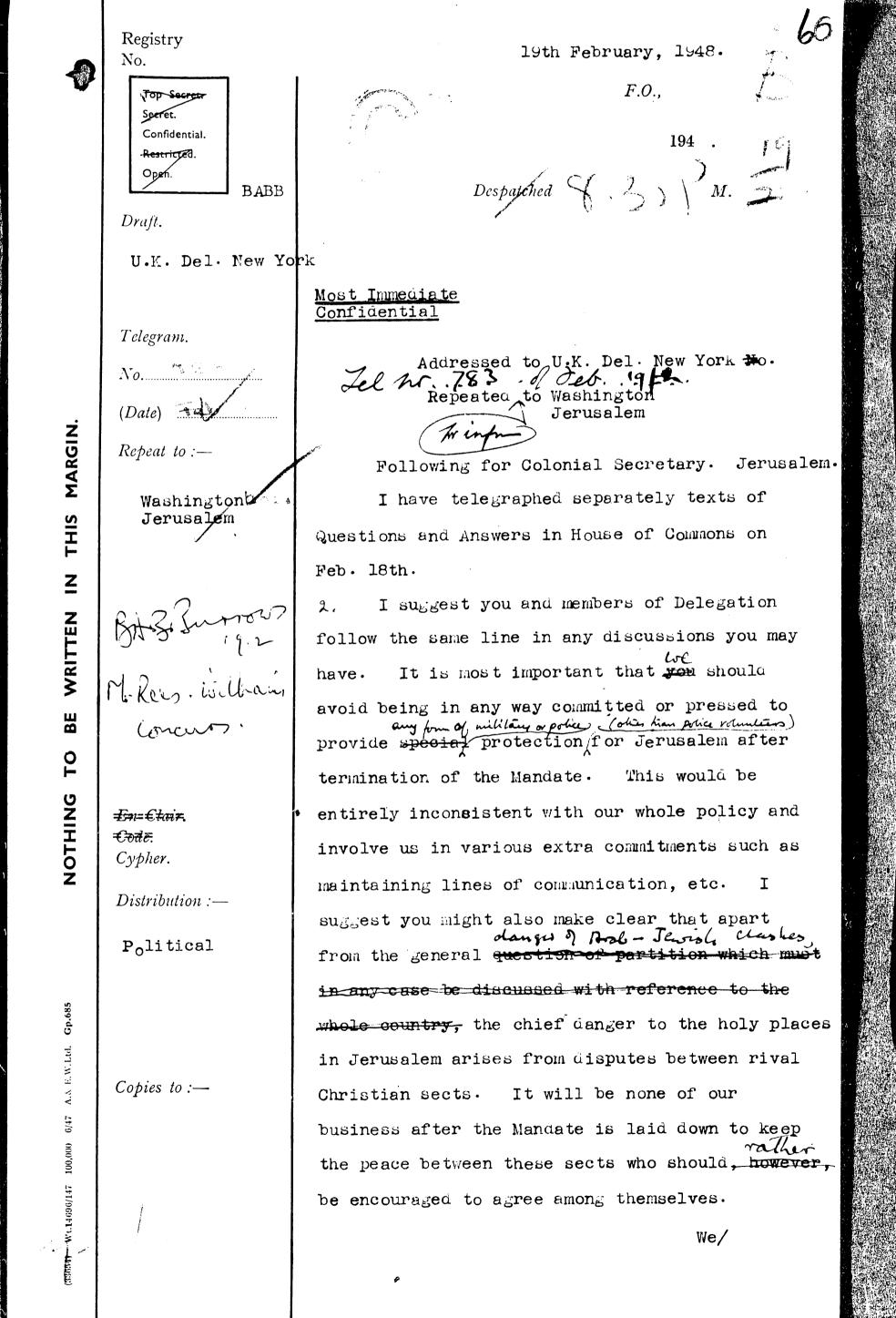
Please see Foreign Office telegram No. 783.

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3. We have as you know been thinking of putting forward a proposal that Jerusalem should be proclaimed an open city to avoid the possibility of its becoming one of the battlefields between Arabs and Jews. I now think it will be better to leave this proposal in abeyance for the time being both because it is difficult to reconcile with our declared attitude that the United Nations will be responsible once we have left and because it would be better not to commit ourselves in any direction before we see how the forthcoming discussions in America turn out.

4. As regards the Governor, Ministers have united Kingdom, Subject

agreed that a British subject/should not repeat not be appointed since any such appointment would tend to strengthen the argument in favour of leaving British forces in Jerusalem which we are not The application of a British prepared to do. Governor would also upset the Archy and would not be consistent with our policy of impartiality. As regards possible appointment of a Governor from Canada, Australia, South Africa or New Zealand, it is clearly not for us to say yes or not. You should, however, note that it is our view, that you should let it be known discreetly in appropriate quarters, that we would max consider any such appointment embarrassing for the same reasons as those given above. If a representative of one of these dominions was appointed, we should feel that the Government concerned ought to have considered the possibility that they would be asked to find means of supporting his authority.

HING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN

As regards to farticular case of Fitzgerald we feel that, whatever may be his exact national status, his long status administration wakes it necessary to consider him as a UK. candidate of therefore as falling under the ban referred to above.

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5. It would be better for us not to comment one way or the other as regards the possible appointment of a Governor from India.

6. It would appear particularly inappropriate for Commander Jackson to be appointed in view of the important appointment he has recently taken up.

7. We have some doubts whether M. Stucki would be suitable but we should not express any opinion about him or about any other non-British candidate.

non-British candidate.

8. I suggest you should draw attention in whatever you feel in the most apprepriate manner to the gap which will or cour even in the most favourable weamstance.

before the special regume for Jerusalem can be set up.

8. Then will, of counts, be a get between our given g up the mandet or before the special regime for Jerusalem can keep with the build regime for Jerusalem can keep with the build had only the build with the limited with th

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POLITICAL DISTRIBUTION

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO NEW YORK

(To United Wingdom Delegation to United Lations)

No. 783

February 19th, 1948.

D. 8.50 p.m. February 19th, 1948.

Repeated to Washington Mo.2024 Jerusalem

MOST IMMEDIATE CONFIDENTIAL

Addressed to United Kingdom Delegation New York telegram No. 783 of February 19th, repeated for information to ashington and Jerusalem.

Following for Jolonial Secretary. Jerusalem.

I have telegraphed separately texts of questions and Answers in Louse of Commons on February 18th.

- 2. I suggest you and members of Delegation follow the same line in any discussions you may have. It is most or pressed to provide any form of military or police protection (other than police volunteers) for Jerusalem after inconsistent with our whole policy and involve us in various etc. I suggest you might also make clear that apart from the holy places in Jerusalem arises from disputes between to the holy places in Jerusalem arises from disputes between after the Mandate is laid down to keep the peace between themselves.
- that Jerusalem should be proclaimed an open city to avoid the possibility of its becoming one of the battlefields between this proposal in abeyance for the time being both because it the United Mations will be responsible once we have left and the United Nations will be responsible once we have left and because it would be better not to commit ourselves in any direction before we see how the forthcoming discussions in
- 4. As regards the Governor, Ministers have agreed that a United Mingdom subject should not (repeat not) be appointed since any such appointment would tend to strengthen the argument in favour of leaving British forces in Jerusalem which we are not prepared to do. We feel that the appointment of a British Governor would not be consistent with our policy of impartiality. As regards possible appointment

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of a Governor from Canada, Australia, South Africa or Mew Bealand, it is clearly not for us to say yes or no. You should, however, know that it is our view, and you could let this be known discreetly in appropriate quarters, that we would consider any such appointment embarrassing for the same reasons as those given above. If a representative of one of these dominions was appointed, we should feel that the Government concerned ought to have considered the possibility that they would be asked to find means of supporting his authority. As regards the particular case of Fitzgerald we feel that, whatever may be his exact national status, his long association with British administration makes it necessary to consider him as a United Kingdom candidate and therefore as falling under the ban referred to above.

- 5. It would be better for us not to comment one way or the other as regards the possible appointment of a Governor from India.
- 6. It would appear particularly inappropriate for Commander Jackson to be appointed in view of the important appointment he has recently taken up.
- 7. He have some doubts whether H. Stucki would be suitable but we should not express any opinion about him or about any other non-British candidate.
- 8. There will, of course, be a gap between our giving up the mandate and before the special regime for Jerusalem can be set up, which no doubt the United Nations Commission appreciate.

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TRUSTEESHIP DISTRIBUTION

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 568.

February 18th, 1948.

D. 8.2.p.m. February 18th, 1948.

R. 1.32.a.m. February 19th, 1948. Repeated to Jerusalem, Washington Saving.

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19 FEB 1948

Addressed Foreign Office telegram No. 568 February 18th, repeated for information to Jerusalem and Saving Washington.

Following for Martin Colonial Office from Galsworthy.

Your telegram 675. Jerusalem legislative council.

Burns still favours proposal in paragraph 2 of his telegram No. 422 particularly in view of High Commissioner's telegram No. 395 to Colonial Office. He would like therefore a free hand to support proposal if circumstances appear favourable. In any event we should be most grateful for your further comments as early as possible since Trusteeship Council begins work on statute on 19th February.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem as my telegram

[Advance copies sent to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for Mr. Martin and repetition to Jerusalem].

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FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

E 238E

W/a/a..

(From U.K. Delegation to United Nations)

No. 567.

D. 7.48 p.m. 18th February 5 1943.

18th February, 1948.

R. 1.41 a.m. 19th February 1948.

Repeated to Jerusalem and Saving Washington.

IMPORTANT. CONFIDENTIAL. BUILD.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 567 of 18th February, repeated for information to Jerusalem and Saving to Washington.

Jerusalem.

Following for Martin Colonial Office from Galsworthy.

At this morning's opening session of Trusteeship Council, after Laurentie had formally introduced Working Committee's Report, Iraq delegate read long prepared speech general purport being:-

- (a) Decision to place Jerusalem under international régime was illegal.
- (b) If Trusteeship Council nevertheless proceeds with statute Iraq is not (repeat not) prepared to take part in discussion of this item and Arab Governments will not (repeat not) be in any way bound by statute and reserve complete freedom of action in regard to it.
 - 2. Iraq delegation then withdrew.
- Trusteeship Council is acting in this manner under mandate of General Assembly consequently any question of Council's competence is matter for Assembly and not for Council itself. Sayre then proposed adjournment until 1400 hours tomorrow (Thursday). Burns proposed Council should continue its work in afternoon but Council agreed to Sayre's proposal. Council will start at tomorrow's meeting with consideration of Working Committee's report (document T/122) and will meet every afternoon at 1400 hours.
- 4. Secretary of State has asked Burns to impress on Council at tomorrow's meeting urgency of completing work on statute and selecting Governor.
- 5. Khalidy's speech included sharply worded attack on United States Government for its part in Palestine plan as a whole making inter alia points that:

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20 FEB 1948

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why the trade of not recognize the validity of the recommendation & Portition Pulestine - (ile copy of Atolement result by deligation of Maile re wat thigher formulter letter.

Last Paper.

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in Registry

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

There are two documents, though the N.Y. covering wite only mentions are: 1.) arab Higher Committee's justification of refusal to corpuste with the Palestine Commission. (Pares 2-5, m the premue excerted to of him the in maring, are in trusting, though pulas containing no new information).

2.) Permanent Delyation of Haiti's comments on the above letter. This opnores in fact that, the according to the (taition Pelejate's statement before voling, his Sovemment had proved the postition "in the most formal trus" and then, three days lake, orden him to

vote for it. Ironic congratiolations in the last pura. refer to the Wrat Committee's para 2 (b) - the

J. Balfun

It will be noted that the Hartran statement contains no derial of the Asat allegation.

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(Action (Index completed.)

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Next Paper.

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	n of Enclosure.	
Name and Date.	Su	bject.
Isa Nakhleh, Representative of the Arab Higher Committee. 6th Fabruary, 1948. and any Alexandra Marabana Marabanara Mar	ngton and Jeru	salem)

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THE DELEGATION OF THE

ARAB HIGHER COMMITTEE FOR PALESTINE

4512 Empire State Bldg. New York, 1, Mew York



6th. February, 1948

His Excellency
The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs
The Foreign Office
London, United Kingdom.

MOEKED

Your Excellency:

memorandum submitted to the Secretary General of the United

Nations explaining the reasons why the Arabs of Palestine do not

recognise the validity of the recommendations to partition Pales
tine and reaffirming their determination to defend their country

and resist in self-defense any attempt to mutilate it.

I beg to remain,
Your Excellency's
most obedient servant,

J. Nath I

Isa Nakhleh Representative of the Arab Higher Committee for Palestine.

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(This memorandum, explaining the reasons why the Arabs do not recognize the validity of the recommendations to partition Palestine, was submitted by the Arab Higher Committee Delegation to His Excellency the Secretary General of the United Nations on Friday, February 6th, 1948.)

THE DELEGATION OF THE

ARAB HIGHER COMMITTEE FOR PALESTINE

4512 Empire State Building New York 1, New York

6th February 1948

His Excellency The Secretary General United Nations Lake Success, New York

Subject: Palestine

Your Excellency:

With reference to Your Excellency's telegram dated the 9th of January inviting the Arab Higher Committee to appoint a representative "to be available to the Palestine Commission for such authoritative information and other assistance as the commission may require," and with reference to my telegram dated the 18th of January in which I communicated to Your Excellency the decision of the Arab Higher Committee, I have the honor to submit the following reasons for such decision:

- 1. The Arab Higher Committee maintains that the partition recommendation does not represent the sentiments of the United Nations. We cannot forget that the resolution of partition in the Ad Hoc Committee secured 25 votes only. When the matter was referred to the General Assembly on the 26th of November, there were 17 nations opposing partition. Had voting taken place on that date the partition proposal would not have obtained the required two-thire majority. The Arab Higher Committee cannot forget the maneuvers made by the President of the Assembly and some delegates supporting partition in order to postpone taking votes on that day when they realized that their proposal might be defeated.
- 2. The pressure put by the United States Delegation and Government on cortain nations, whether at Lake Success or in these nations' capitals, is nothing short of political blackmail. The following represent only a few instances:
 - a. The delegate of Siam was accepted in the Ad Hoc Committee as a vice chairman until he showed his intention to vote against partition. Then he was threatened that his credentials would be refused. As a consequence he was forced not to attend.
 - b. The delegate of Haiti on Wednesday made a very strong speech against partition, on instructions from his Government. On Saturday he circulated a note to Delegations explaining that he is voting for partition in accordance with fresh instructions from his Government. The Haitian Delegate did not find words to describe his shame and he was seen in tears in the lobby and Delegates' lounge. Being a sincere and noble man, he could not hide the fact that his Government surrendered to pressure and was forced into changing its instructions to him.

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c. General Carlow P. Romulo, Head of the Philippines delegation, on Wednesday made a very strong and courageous speech denouncing partition declaring: "At the behast of my Government, the Philippine Republic regrets its inability to approve of or participate in a solution of the Palestine problem that would involve the encouragement of political disunion and the enforcement of measures that would amount to the territorial mutilation of the Holy Lahd."

But on Saturday and in the absence of General Romulo there were two Philippines Delegates, each claiming different instructions - one to vote against partition as instructed by the head of his delegation, the other supporting partition according to fresh instructions from his Government. It is an established fact that strong pressure was put on the Phillipines Government by the United States Government and, according to reliable information, the United States Government threatened the Philippines Government that it will not grant it the loan it is asking for if its delegation fails to support partition. In this way the Arabs lost the Philippines vote.

- d. The Liberian delegate on the Ad Hoc Committee, Mrs. Ellen Scarborough, on the 25th of November abstained from voting although it was known that the Liberian Delegates intended to vote against partition in the Assembly. Thereupon the Jewish Agency and its pressure squads threatened her with actual physical violence which caused her to ask for police protection. On Saturday, the 29th of November, due to heavy pressure on the said Government, the Liberian Delegation voted for partition.
- 3. This undue pressure was not limited to the aforementioned delegations, but to every other delegation and its Government abroad. The following quotations from speeches of delegates prove this point:
 - a. Dr. Ernesto Dihigo of Cuba, in his speech in the Assembly on November 28th, said: "Having formed and given our view, we feel that we have to express our view through our vote, in the maintenance of consistency, in spite of pressure which has been brought to bear upon us."
 - b. Dr. Alfredo Lopez, Head of the Colombia Delegation, in his speech in the Assembly on the 28th of November, said: "Partition here may eventually be adopted, but we submit that reluctant votes, recruited with irrelevant eleventh hour appeals, will not improve its position in the opinion of the outside world."
 - "Those who have no access to what is going on behind the scenes have known enough from the press to have a great fear in their hearts not only on this question -- because this is one individual question that has come up -- but that the deliberations and decisions of this great body in which the hopes of the world for the future are centered will not on crucial questions be left free.

"This is a solemn moment, solemn in the history of the world, in the history of this great -- let us hope, at least, great -- Organization. The United Nations is today on trial. The world is watching and will see how it acquits itself, again, perhaps, not so much from the point of view of whether partition is approved or not approved, but from the point of view whether any room is to be left for the exercise of honest judgment and conscience upon these important questions when they come up for decision."

Also Mr. Mohammed Ayub of the same Delegation said as follows:
"We did succeed in persuading a sufficient number of our fellow representatives to see the right as we saw it..." He entertain no sense of grievance against such of our friends and fellow representatives who have been compelled, under heavy pressure, to change sides and to cast their votes in support of a proposal, the justice and fairness of which do not commend themselves to them. Our feeling for them is one of sympathy that they should have been placed

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in a position of such embarrassment between their judgement and conscience on one side and the pressure to which they and their Governments were being subjected on the other."

- 4. Such flagrant interference and pressure were not exercised by the United States Government only, but also by United States Senators. The Arab Higher Committee Delegation saw several telegrams out of many hundreds by United States Senatory addressed to Delegates of different nations threatening, persuading and putting improper pressure on these Delegates to sway them in favor of partition.
- 5. The President of the General Assembly, Lr. Oswaldo Aranha, who being president should have been very impartial, was contrary to the traditions of presidency, influencing the Latin American countries to vote against the Arabs. A report of a speech by him appeared in the P.M. of New York in its issue of October 9th as follows:

"Oswalde Aranha of Brazil, President of the General Assembly warned Latin American Delegates that failure on their part to support the United States-Soviet agreement on partition of Palestine would be a further heavy blow to the weakened United Nations. Aranha stressed the point at a recent Latin-American caucus after several delegates had declared themselves impressed with Arab claims that United Nations lacked authority under the Charter to partition any state." Without making any comment on these juridical claims, Aranha is reported to have said: "I want to impress upon all of you that they are, at best, merely juridical."

Mr. Aranha was faced with this report in the press but he made no public denial.

- agreement or act made or done under pressure, undue influence or duress, is null and void. The aforementioned facts prove how the partition recommendations were extorted from member states of the United Nations. The Arabs therefore consider them null and void and of no legal or moral force.
- 7. The Arab Higher Committee Delegation maintains that the recommendation of partition is also contrary to the letter and spirit of the United Nations Charter. The Arab Delegations have fully dealt with this point in their addresses in the Ad Hoc Committee and in the Assembly. Their arguments were unanswerable, but power politics ignored all the logic, reason and justice of their arguments and Delegations were being led by undue pressure and influence to make recommendations repugnant to the Charter.
- 8. The United Nations has no jurisdiction to order or recommend the partition of Palestine. There is nothing in the Charter to warrant such authority, consequently the recommendation of partition is ultra vires and therefore null and void.
- 9. The Arab Delegations submitted proposals in the Ad Hoc Committee in order to refer the whole legal issue raised for a ruling by the International Court of Justice. The said proposals were voted upon by 20 for 21 against and 16 abstaining. The said proposals were never put to vote by the president in the Assembly. The United Nations is an International body entrusted with the task of enforcing peace and justice in international affairs. How could there be any confidence in such a body if it bluntly and unreasonably refuses to refer such a dispute to the International Court of Justice?
- 10. The Arab Higher Committee Delegation wishes to reaffirm here that the Arabs of Palestine cannot recognise the Balfour Declaration, the Mandate of Palestine or any situation arising or derived therefrom. They consider that imposing international alien immigrants on their country by force is nothing but an act of aggression and invasion, whether made by Jews themselves, through Great Britain, or by the United Nations. The Arab Higher Committee Delegation therefore expects that the duty of the United Nations is to remove the said aggression and stop that invasion. The creation of any Jewish state in an Arab territory is more than invasion or aggression; it is samething with no precedent in history. It is an act of wiping out the existence of an Arab country, violating its in-

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tegrity, subjecting its land and people to foreign Jewish deminaticn.

- 11. In its statement to the Ad Hoc Committee on the 29th of September, our Delegation left no doubt on the Arab reactions: "The Arabs of Palestine are, therefore, solidly determined to oppose, with all the means at their disposal, any scheme that provides for the dissection, segregation or partition of their tiny country, or that gives to a minority, on the ground of creed, special and preferential rights or status. They will oppose such schemes, with the same zeal and with the same sacrifice that any other people would do under the same circumstances. We are alive to the fact that if they so desire, big powers could crush, by brute force, such opposition. But this realisation will not doter us from drenching the soil of our beloved country with the last drop of our blood in the lawful defense of all and every inch of it." These sclemn words were dismissed by the Zionists and the powers supporting them as idle threats. The events in Palestine since the end of November are only the beginning of this tragedy. Already over 1000 persons have been killed and over 2000 injured.
- 12. The Zionists and their friends are building a smoke screen of propaganda to convince the world that if the partition plan is not implemented by force the prestige of the United Nations is at stake. Secret maneuvers are being carried out to lead the Security Council to send an international force to Palestine to crush Arab resistance. Our Delegation solemnly declares that it is the unflinching determination of every Arab in Palestine to defend his country against any power or group of powers or any force going to Palestine to partition the country. The Arabs are in duty and honour bound to defend their country to the last man. The presumed mission of an international force which is to be sent to Palestine can only be to wipe out the Arabs, blow up their dwellings and uproot them from their land.

History will then record that the United Nations, which was meant to be an instrument of peace and justice, is being used as an instrument of war and aggression.

- 13. In conclusion, the Arab Higher Committee Delegation wishes to stress the following:
 - a. The Arabs of Palestine will never recognise the validity of the exterted partition recommendations or the authority of the United Nations to make them.
 - b. The Arabs of Palestine consider that any attempt by the Jews or any power or group of powers to ostablish a Jawish state in Arab territory is an act of aggression which will be resisted in self-defense by force.
 - c. It is very unwise and fruitless to ask any commission to proceed to Palestine because not a single Arab will cooperate with the said Commission.
 - d. The United Nations or its Commission should not be misled to believe that its efforts in the partition plan will meet with any success. It will be far better for the exlipsed prestige of this organization not to start on this adventure.
 - e. The United Nations prestige will be better served by abandoning, not enforcing such an injustice.
 - f. The determination of every Arab in Palestine is to oppose in every way the partition of that country.
 - g. The Arabs of Palestine made a solemn declaration before the United Nations, before God and history, that they will never submit or yield to any power going to Falestine to enforce partition.

His Excellency The Secretary General Page 5.

76

The only way to establish partition is first to ripe them cut a man woman and child.

I beg to remain,

Sir

Yours faithfully,

Isa Nakhleh Representative of the Arab Higher Committee

IN:ess

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE Reference:
1 2 3 4 5 6 FO 371/68533

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"NITED NATIONS

Department of Public Information Press and Publications Office Lake Success, New York.

> Press Release PM/824 10 February 1948

STATESENT OF THE DELEGATION OF HAITI

The Permanent Delegation of Haiti to the United Nations has issued the following statement in connection with the memorandum of the Arab Higher Committee dated 6 February 1948:

UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION FROM THE FRENCH

The Permanent Delegation of Haiti to the United Nations has noted with a certain astonishment the letter of the Arab Higher Committee to Mr. Trygve Lie concerning the partition of Palestine. The Haitian Delegation wishes to express first of all its great surprise that some Members of the United Nations, contrary to the obligations undertaken at San Francisco and to the practice generally applying in international meetings, have questioned a decision taken by the General Assembly.

The Arab Higher Committee has thought it necessary to single out the position taken by the Republic of Haiti in the final vote on the Palestinian question and has not hesitated to attribute the attitude taken by our country to pressure exercised by the Government of the United States

Such allegations show that the authors ignore the directives followed, ince the proclamation of our independence, by Haitian Governments. Because Haiti is a small country which constitutes on the continent a minority, of race, language and culture, it has no other alternative but to follow a policy of dignity and to stand, with its modest resources, at the side of all who are oppressed.

To safeguard its liberties, our country did not hesitate, in the past, to raise the banner of revolt against the powerful armies of Napoleon. Against Spain, it offered its hand to Simon Bolivar and contributed, in this way, to the liberation of South American countries; the Haitian volcunteers who shed their blood on the plain of Savannah bear witness to the generosity of our help to American colonists against the British. All who have followed Haitian history know our national pride and the struggles we have waged to remain worthy of the heritage bequeathed to us and which we have always defended at the cost of

/the greatest....

HT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO B CED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITI MISSION OF THE PUBLIC OFFICE, LONDON the greatest sacrifices.

It was therefore perfectly natural that the Haitian Government did not remain indifferent to the fate of the Jewish peoples throughout the world and cooperated in the task which constitutes the solution of a problem on which depends the future of a group, the remaining survivors of the messacre of six millions persons.

The Emitian Government was desirous of thus recalling the main lines of its policy and if it congratulates the Arab Higher Committee for its physiognomical gifts and for the importance which it attaches to the physical expressions of opinions, which could only be personal, it affirms on the other hand that it has remained consistent both in its present moral obligations as with the historical necessities of the past, in giving its approval and its collaboration to a cause supported by the United Nations.

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371/68533

En Clair

WORLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to the United 25)
Nations)

No.587

19th February, 1948.
Repeated to Jerusalem

D. 9. 48 p.m. 19th February, 1948.
R. 2. 45 a.m. 26th February, 1948 IMMEDIATE Washington Saving

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 587 of February 19th repeated for information to Jerusalem and Saving to Washington.

Palestine

In course of meeting with Colonial Secretary this afternoon (report of which will follow) Commission asked for a list of Treaties, Conventions and other international obligations which apply to Palestine.

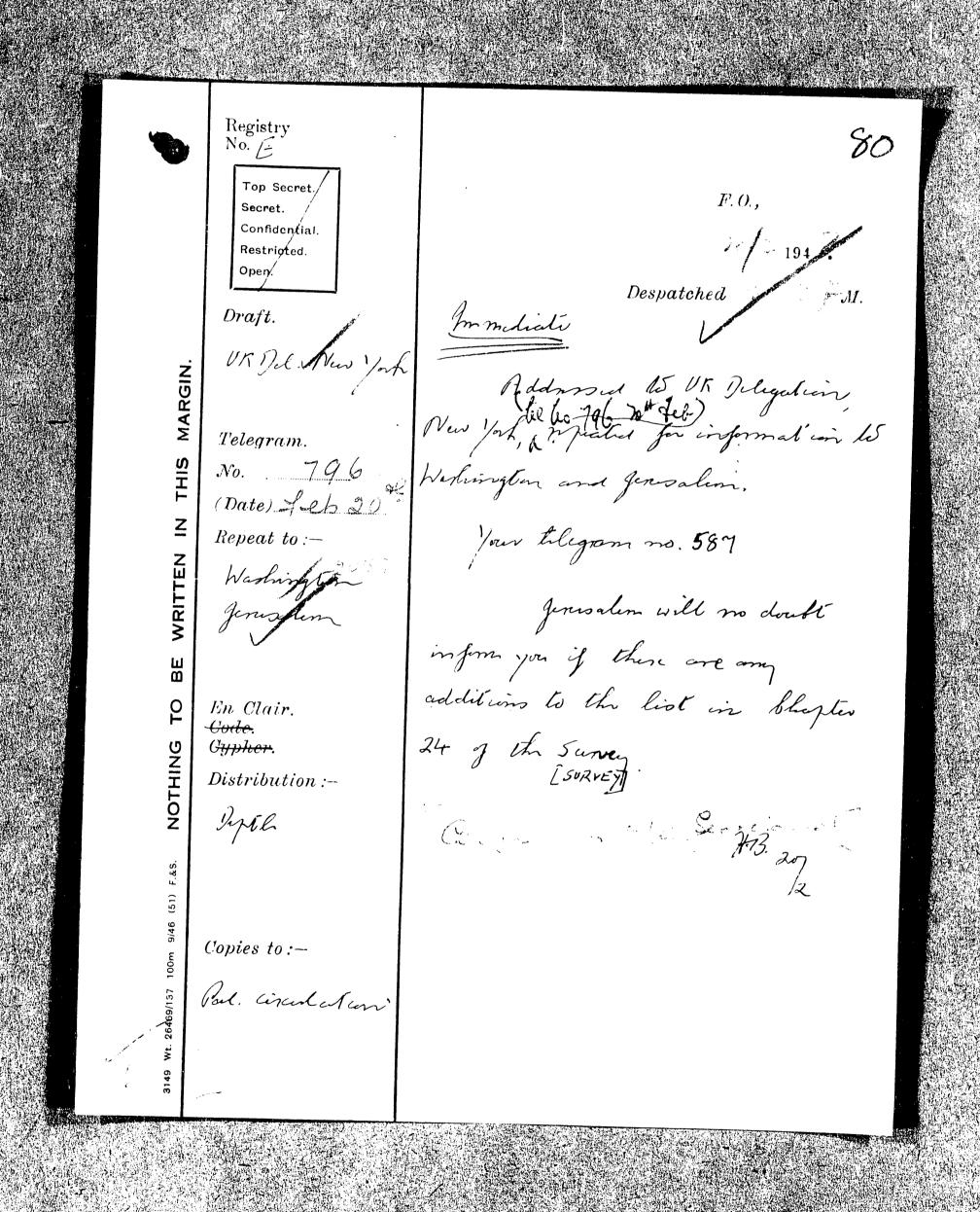
2. I should be grateful if this information could be forwarded urgently.

Foreign Office please pass to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 114.

[Copies sent to Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem 1

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En Clair

DEPART ENTAL DISTRIBUTION

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO NEW YORK

(To United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nations)

No. 796 20th February, 1948

D: 7.12 p.m. 20th February, 1948

Repeated to: Washington No. 2057

IMEDIATE

Addressed to United Kingdom Delegation New York telegram No. 796 of 20th February repeated for information to washington and Jerusalem.

Your telegram No. 587.

Jerusalem will no doubt inform you if there are any additions to the list in Chapter 24 of the Survey

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat]

G G G G



INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

En Clair

FROM PALESTINE (Gon. Sir A. Caraingham)

D. 3th April, 1948. P. 3th 15 5% bry Market

No. 893

Addressed to UKDEL, No. 955. Repeated to S. of S.

Your telegram to Foreign Office No.587 and Foreign Office telegram to you sto. 796.

Treaties, etc.

List in Chapter 24 of Survey of Palestine is complete with the exception of the final Act of Paris Conference on Reparation, Part 4, Article 2 of which extends the force of the agreement to territories over which the signatory Governments exercise a mediate.

Copy sent to:-

Foreign Office - Mr. Belth.

MN

1948	E	E 2432 20 FEB 1948
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Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL.

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No.577 19th February, 1948.

D: 1.25 p.m. 19th February, 1948

:: 6.40 p.m. 19th Mebruary, 1948.

MOST INMEDIATE.

1 2432

Addressed to Highcoma Jerusalem telegram No.113 of 19th February. Repeated to Foreign Of 21de (nor 1948 Colonial Office) and Washington Saving.

Following for Gurney from Fletcher-Cooke. [Begins].

My telegram No.107.

Advance Party of Commission Secretariat,

I have just been informed by telephone that the plans of the Secretariat advance party have been changed.

- 2. It has now been decided that the party of six referred to in telegram under reference will leave for the United Fingdom on Sunday 22nd February. Azcarate, who is leading the party, proposes to make contact with the Colonial Office and expects to leave for Palestine so as to arrive there, probably by F.L.M. on Sunday 29th February or Monday 1st March.
- 3. Commission have asked whether one or two cars can be placed at the disposal of this party.
- 4. A press report here suggests that arrangements have been made to accommodate this party in the King David Hotel. Should be grateful for information as to whether this is in fact the case or what alternative arrangements are contemplated.
- 5. Commission express their regret for any inconvenience caused by this change of plan.

Please pass most immediate to Jerusalem and Colonial Office.

[Copies sent to Colonial Office for information and for repetition to Jerusalem].

AAA AA

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F THE PUBLIC

INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

Cypher (O.T.P.)

E2432 4 11

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

D. 25th February 1948. R. 25th "

22.10 hrs.

MOSYSOM

IMMEDIATE

No. 469 Secret

Your telegram No. 713.

Accommodation proposed for the Commission staff in Zone B opposite King David Hotel is now being evacuated by the Army but it has so far proved impossible to provide domestic staff. It had been hoped that Jewish staff would be available, but in view of recent incidents in Jerusalem it will now be difficult to persuade any to enter this area. We pointed out in our telegram No. 345 that this party would require their own domestic staff and our advice to send one officer in advance has not been taken. In these circumstances if they arrive on Sunday they will probably find themselves without staff.

We shall continue to do our best to help and I hope that when they see things for thomselves here they will appreciate the difficulties. If on the other hand they wish to make their own arrangements we cannot be responsible for their security and they should be warned that Arabs have declared their intention of atracking them.

3. Question of cars will be dealt with on arrival.

Copies sent to --

Foreign Office

Mr. H. Beeley.

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371/68533

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Cypher/OTP

PROM NEW YORK TO PUREIGN OFFICE.

DEPART SHIAL.

(From U.A. Delegation to the United Mations).

No. 595.

20th February, 1948.

Repeated to Jerusalem and Saving to "ashington.

D. 1. 41 p.m. 20th February, 1948.

Repeated to Jerusalem and Saving to "ashington.

IMMADIATE. SACRAT.

Addressed to Foreign office telegram No. 333 of 20th February, repeated for information to Jerusalem and Saving to Washington.

Your telegram 788. [sic].

secretariat advance party.

Date of arrival at Lydda should have read Sunday 22nd February but as you will have seen from my subsequent telegram to Jerusalem No. 115 plans have now been changed.

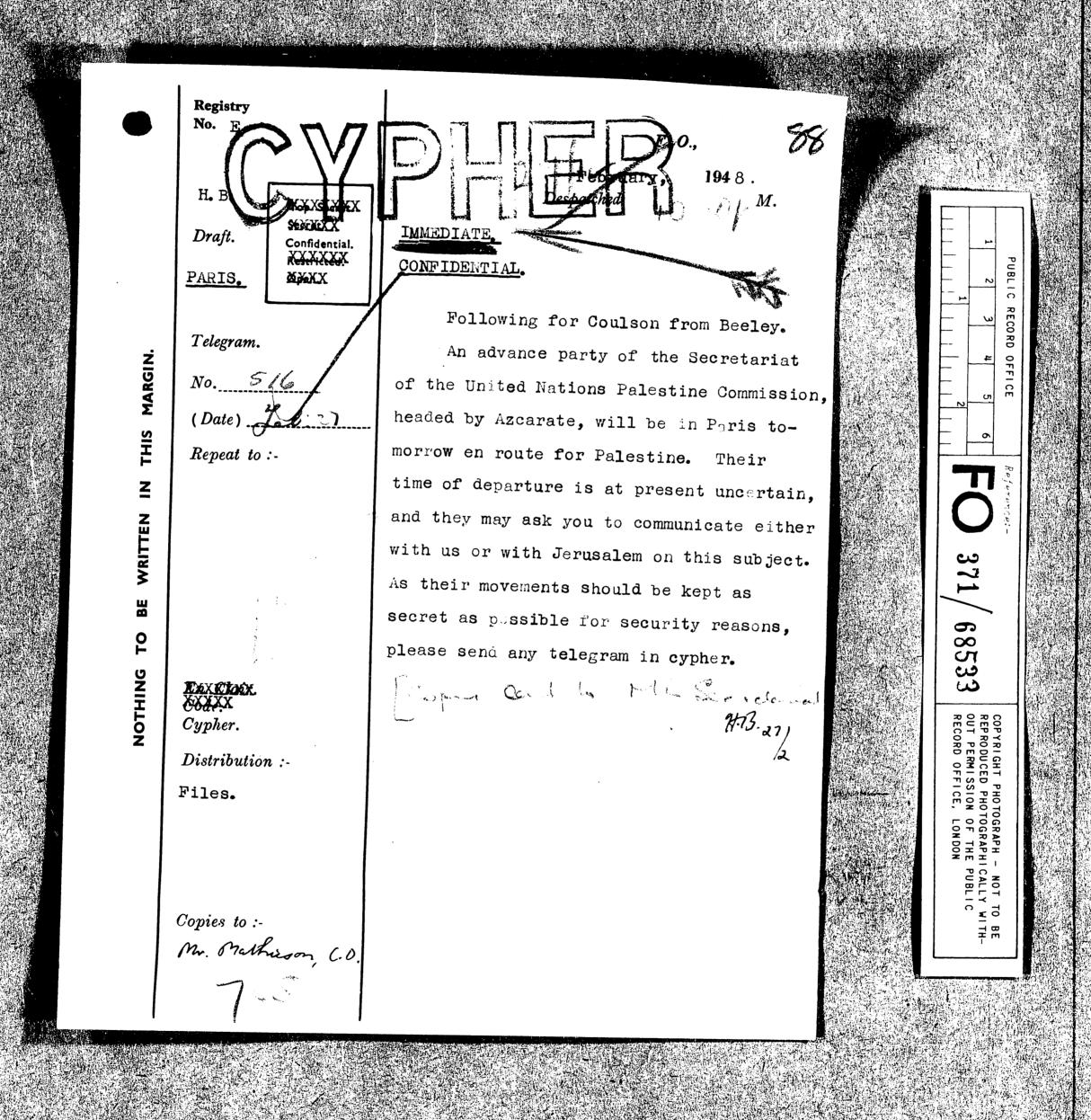
2. Date of party's departure from London for Lyada will not (repeat not) now be fixed until party have reached London.

via C.O. as my telegram No. 115.

Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem].

68533

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Cypher/OTP CONFIDENTIAL

FILES

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO PARIS

No. 516

D. 10.20 p.m. 27th February, 1948

27th February, 1948

IMMEDIATE CONFIDENTIAL

Following for Coulson from Beeley.

An advance party of the Secretariat of the United Nations Palestine Commission, headed by Azcarate will be in Paris tomorrow en route for Palestine. Their time of departure is at present uncertain, and they may ask you to communicate either with us or with Jerusalem on this subject. As their movements should be kept as secret as possible for security reasons, please send any telegram in cypher.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat].

uuuuu

OUTWARD TELEGRAM FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES F1470 4 31 Cypher (O.T.P.) TO PATESTINE (Gen., Sir A. Cunninghem) Sent Sith February, 1948. 21.00 hrs. IMMEDIATE No. 713 Secreto My telegrem No. 702. United Nations party have again found it necessary to change their plans and now propose to travel from Paris to Lydda by Air France line arriving Sunday morning O940 hours. Please telegraph as soon as possible whether this is convenient. Copy sent the: Poreign Office - Mr. H. Becley.

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1940	PALEBTINE	21 FEB 1948
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PROM BE YORK TO FOR IGE OFFICE.

(From U.K. Delegation to United Mations).

No. 595.

20th February, 1948. R. 9.10 p.m. 20th February, 1948. Repeated to Jerusalem and mashington Saving.

ImmeDIAT ;.

Addressed to r.O. telegram No. 995 of rebruary 20th, repeated to Jerusalem and "ashington Saving.

Following for martin, Colonial office from [Begins].

Reference sub paragraph 4 of Section (1) municipalities and local councils of paragraph 2 of note on matter to be discussed with Commission submitted to them on alst January.

Commission have already asked to see draft legislation authorising municipal and local councils to collect urban property tax in 1948/49 and if you see no objection I propose to furnish Commission with copies of draft legislation and to inform them of substance of Jeruasalem telegram Saving so of 10th February to you.

2. Commission have of course already received copies of draft bill amending municipal corporations orainance.

Graceful for earliest reply.

Please repeat to Jerusalem immediate as my telegram

[Copies sent to Telegraph Branch C.O. for repetition to Jerusalem, and to C.O. for martin.]

3047 I F.O.P

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on] Cypher/OTP

TRUSTEESHIP DISTRIBUTION

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nations)

No. 605. February 20th, 1948.

D. 11.20.p.m. February 20th, 1948. R. 4.40.a.m. February 21st, 1943.

Repeated to Jerusalem, Vashington (Saving).

IMPORTANT. SECRET. BUILD

21 FEB 1948 J

Addressed Foreign Office (for Colonial Office) telegram No. 605 February 20th, repeated for information to Jerusalem and Saving Mashington.

Jerusalem.

Burns has been informed very confidentially by Sayre and Gerig that they have approached leaders of churches in America with a view to latter making joint appeal for truce of God in Palestine. Sayre and Gerig reported response had been most favourable and preliminary meeting with church archbishop of Canterbury and other foreign religious leaders to join in appeal but emphasised that it is desired to keep matter strictly confidential until Moslem leaders have been invited to participate.

able to obtain on this question.

Please pass Colonial Office and repeat to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 120.

[Copies sent to Colonial Office for transmission to Jerusalem].

163 21 FEB 1948 Rubbielig of Reformation.

After 40 61 495, Let and of innoting 387 11 realized & longered on 18 leb with a request that if he becomessed our probjection it should be given the rand politicity a sho in great abstract. Received) in Registry) Last Paper. (Minutes.) 2472 9. P.P. Piline til 387 16/2 References. In PP. W. Q. B. Mathunan, 60 75-872/15-9/2/1
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En Clair. 2 + // DEPARTMENTAL.

FROM NET YORKAS FOREIGN OFFICE.

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 607. D. 9.55 p.m. 20th February 1948.

Repeated to Jerusalem and 21st February 1948.

MACTERIANT. Saving Washington.

Addressed to Foreign Office (for C.O.)

No. 607 of 20th February, repeated for information to Jerusalem and Saving to Washington.

Your telegram No. 795.

Substance of Jerusalem telegram No. 387 to you was conveyed to Commission on 18th February with a request that if the Commission say no objection, it should be given the same publicity as the original statement.

Please repeat Important to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 121.

[Copies sent to Colonial Office and to Telegraph Section, Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem].

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

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INWARD TELEGRAM

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES

Cyphor (O.T.P.)

FROM PALESTINE (Gen. Sir A. Cunningham)

D. 16th February, 1948. R. 16th

22,30 hrs.

IMMEDIATE No. 387 Secret.

INDEXED

Addressed to the S. of S. Repeated to U.K. Delegation, New York, No. 427 (Weshington please pass). " Amman saving,

The British statement to Palestine Commission on lith February regarding situation in Samaria district appears to have led to a general belief that the Government control over this district has coased. This is not (repeat not) the case.

- The District Commissioner continues to reside at Mablus and his headquarters and sub-district offices are functioning normally. Palestinian members of police force centinue to perform their normal duties throughout the district under the supervision and control of British police officers. In addition a company of Welsh Guards is stationed in Wablus and military patrols operate from time to time in the district.
- Contingents of mebile (corrupt group) of Avel Telephones in Army which envered Samaria are now atspected among villages of the district. They have so for undertaken no (repent no) offensive operations against Jews and have been careful not to come into conflict with security forces. They are not invertering with activities of civil administration. Thus the "considerable administrative control" mentioned in paragraph ? of my tologram Mo. 307, repeated to U.K. Delogation as Mo. 129. is not (repeat not) being exercised in opposition or in substitution for Eritish administration, but is a supplementary system of communal organization not unlike that existing snong the Jews in Mishmar area, "which is no more and no loss under British control then Samaria district.
- The fact that Jows in Secamia district have so far been lead subject to Arab attack than those in any other district shows that hitherto at any rate present state of affairs is not without its savantages.
- If you see no objection I shall be grateful if the giat of this telegram may be passed to United Nations Commission, and given the same publicity as the statement referred to in paragraph 1. Copies sent to:-

Foreign Office

No. 10 Downing Spreet. . War Office (M.O.L.) Cabinet Offices Ministry of Defence

" Mr. H. Breley.

- Private Socralecy = Private Secretagy,

- Lt. Col. M.M. Charteric.

- Hr. S. H. F. Luko.

- Irivate Secretary.

68533

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The Church House, Gt. Smith Street, London, S.A. 1.

rebruary 19, 1948.

My Reference 75872/159/2/1.

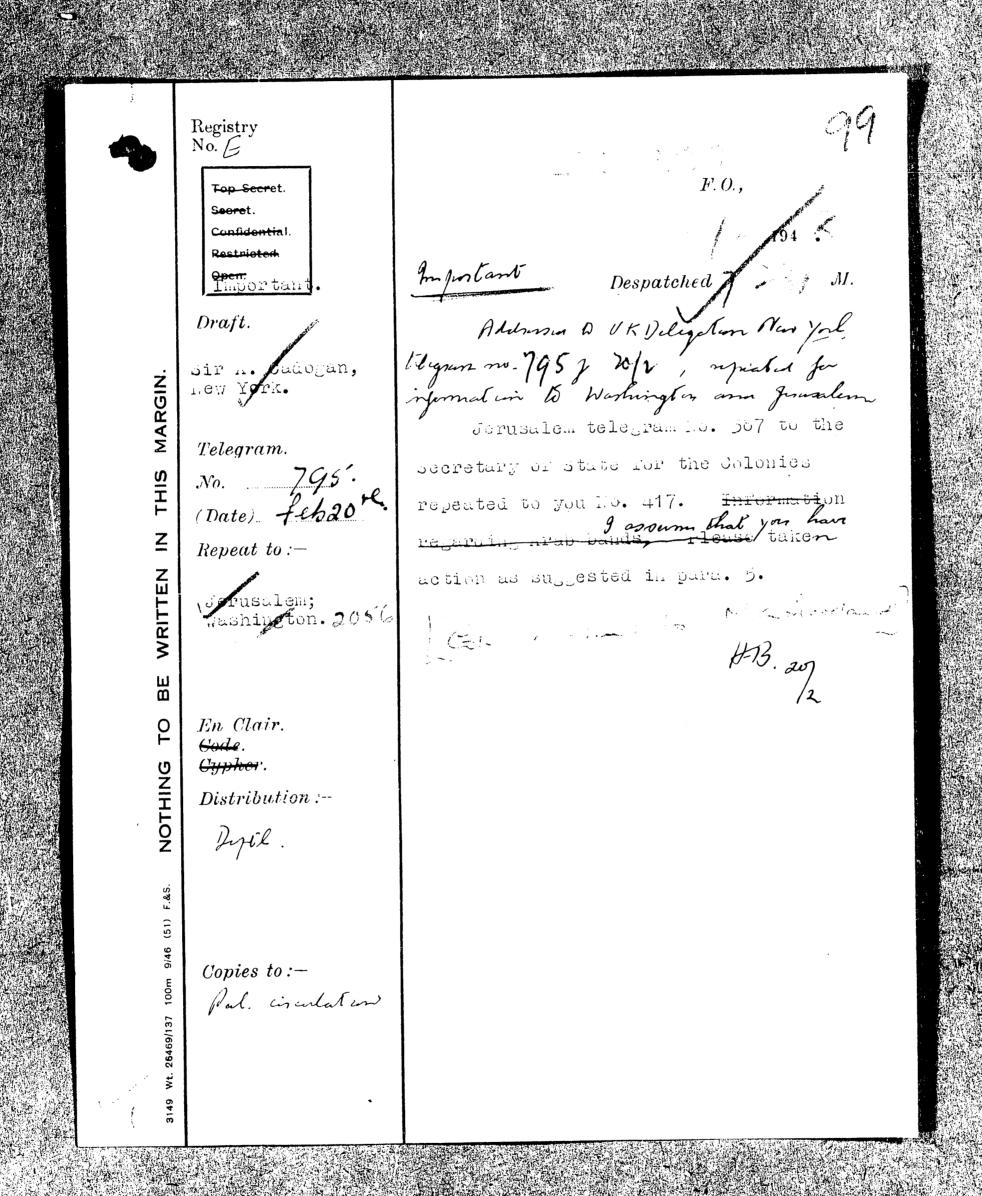
Your Reference

I'my dear Bully,

You will have seen telegram No. 387 Secret of the 16th February from the High Commissioner for Palestine containing a corrective to his earlier statement, circulated to the Johnission by our Delegation, that a large degree of auministrative control was being exercised by Arab invaders in samaria. The telegram is addressed to our Secretary or state and para. 5 suggests certain action with the usual formula "if you see no objection". Perhaps it might be as well to send a telegram as in draft to UKDALY

hay I assume that you are taking the action necessary in response to para. 2 of New York tolegram to Foreign Office No. 522, where our Delegation ask for information regarding approaches made by our representatives to Arab governments on the incursions into Palestine?

Journ eve, Esse Valuisin



100

En Clair

DEPARTMENTAL

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO NEW YORK

(To United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nations)

No. 795.

D: 7.23 p.m. 20th February, 1948.

20th February, 1948.

Repeated to: Jerusalem, Washington No. 2,056.

IMPORTANT

Addressed to U.K.Delegation New York telegram No.795 of 20th February repeated for information to Washington and Jerusalem.

Jerusalem telegram No. 387 to the Secretary of State for the Colonies repeated to you No. 417. I assume that you have taken action as suggested in paragraph 5.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretarist]

Cypher/OTP

WCRLD ORGANISATION DISTRIBUTION

FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From United Kingdom Delegation to the United Nation

No. 604

D.10.31 p.m. 23th Rebruggy 194

20th February, 1948. Repeated to Jerusalem

y, 1948. R. 4.10 a.m. 21st February, 1948 Jerusalem

Washington Saving

IMPORTANT

GIANT

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 604 20th February repeated for information to Jerusalem and Saving to Washington.

My telegram No. 587.

Palestine.

Following is brief report of meeting yesterday which lasted three and a half hours between Secretary of State for the Colonies and Palestine Commission.

- 2. Secretary of State opened with general statement of His Majesty's Government's position. His Majesty's Government were in no way desirous of obstructing the Commission in its task in Palestine, the great difficulties of which were fully appreciated, but on the British side there were also the considerable practical and physical difficulties presented by the operation of withdrawing very large numbers of men and quantities of material in the disordered conditions now existing in Palestine. The satisfactory completion of their withdrawal and the maintenance of security during the operation must necessarily be His Majesty's Government's primary considerations after the Mandate is laid down on May 15th. With that in mind and within the limitations of their decision not to become involved in implementation, His Majesty's Government desired to afford to the Commission all the help that could be derived from their information and experience. His Majesty's Government fully realised the difficulties created for the Commission by the shortness of the overlap period. Many of the Commission's arrangements could however be completed outside Palestine and the United Kingdom Delegation in New York were fully prepared to enter into negotiations with the Commission on the whole range of problems involved as soon as the Commission were ready.
- 3. Secretary of State then dealt with questions put by individual members in the course of which His Majesty's Government's position in regard to the impracticability of progressive withdrawal, overlap period, difficulty of transferring a working administrative machine to the Commission and the establishment of militias was again made clear.
- 4. The only new question was raised by Federspiel in connexion with the establishment of Provisional Councils of Government. The Commission clearly had in mind the Council for the Jewish State only and had no illusions as to their inability to create an Arab Council. Federspiel wished to know whether His Majesty's Government would object

/ to the

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GHT PHOTOGRAPH - NOT TO BE UCED PHOTOGRAPHICALLY WITH-RMISSION OF THE PUBLIC OFFICE, LONDON to the Commission designating a shadow Jewish Council in advance and to the Palestine Government entering into negotiations with it. Secretary of State replied that the Mandatory power could only negotiate with the Commission as their successor in Palestine. Any question of direct discussion with a shadow Jewish Council regarding the responsibilities involved in certain services which might be assigned to that Council raised difficult problems of implementation and he would give the Commission a considered reply later which would he as helpful as he could make it. make it.

5. A number of questions centred round the provision in Part 1 B (2) of the Assembly's plan that the Mandatory power shall to the fullest possible extent co-erdinate its withdrawal plans with the plans of the Commission to take ever and administer evacuated areas. Commission obviously had in mind co-erdination of military withdrawal plans with their own security requirements after 15th May. Secretary of State made it clear that after 15th May British forces would be concerned solely with their own withdrawal and not with general security of Palestine. The directive governing the military withdrawal would shortly be communicated to the Commission who would then be in a position to plan accordingly. On hearing this Chairman said that Commission must assume that Mandatory power were unable to fulfil provision of General Assembly resolution mentioned above.

6. Atmosphere of meeting was friendly. Secretary of State suggested that progress of discussions with Delegation would be facilitated if in future prodedure could be less formal.

Foreign Office please pass important to Jerusalem as my telegram No. 119.

[Copy sent to Telegraph Branch, Colonial Office for transmission to Jerusalem.]

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Next Paper.

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Cypher/OTP

TRUSTESHIP DISTRIBUTION

FROM NAW YORK TO FOR MIGH 3 PEFE 1948

(From United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No. 610

D. 12.10 p.m. 21st February 1948 R. 5.45 p.m. 21st February 1948

21st February 1948.

Repeated to Jerusalem Washington Saving.

IMMEDIATE. CONFIDENTIAL.

Addressed to Foreign Office telegram No. 610 of February 21st repeated for information to Jerusalem and Saving to ashington.

Governor of Jerusalem.

Following for Martin Colonial Office from Sir A. Burns.

At dinner on 19th February attended by all members of Trusteeship Council (except Mexican Costarican and Iraqi Delegates) and by Bunche, appointment of Governor of Jerusalem was discussed very freely. Shortly beforehand I had seen Foreign Office telegram No. 783,

- 2. I was pressed to withdraw objection to appointment of United Kingdom national and it was even suggested that no country was able to or should veto appointment of one of its own nationals. To this I replied that a man who accepted this appointment contrary to wishes of his own Government was unlikely to be suitable for responsible post. Matter was then arepped.
- 3. After long discussion following eight persons were listed as being worthy of consideration: -
 - (a) Magaliar of India. (b) Stucki
 - (c) Rappard of Switzerland
 (d) Lange, Foreign Minister of Norway
 (e) Casey of Australia
 (f) Jackson of Australia

 - (g) Drury of Canada (h) Egeland, High Commissioner in London for South Africa.
- I had already spoken privately to various members

/regarding....

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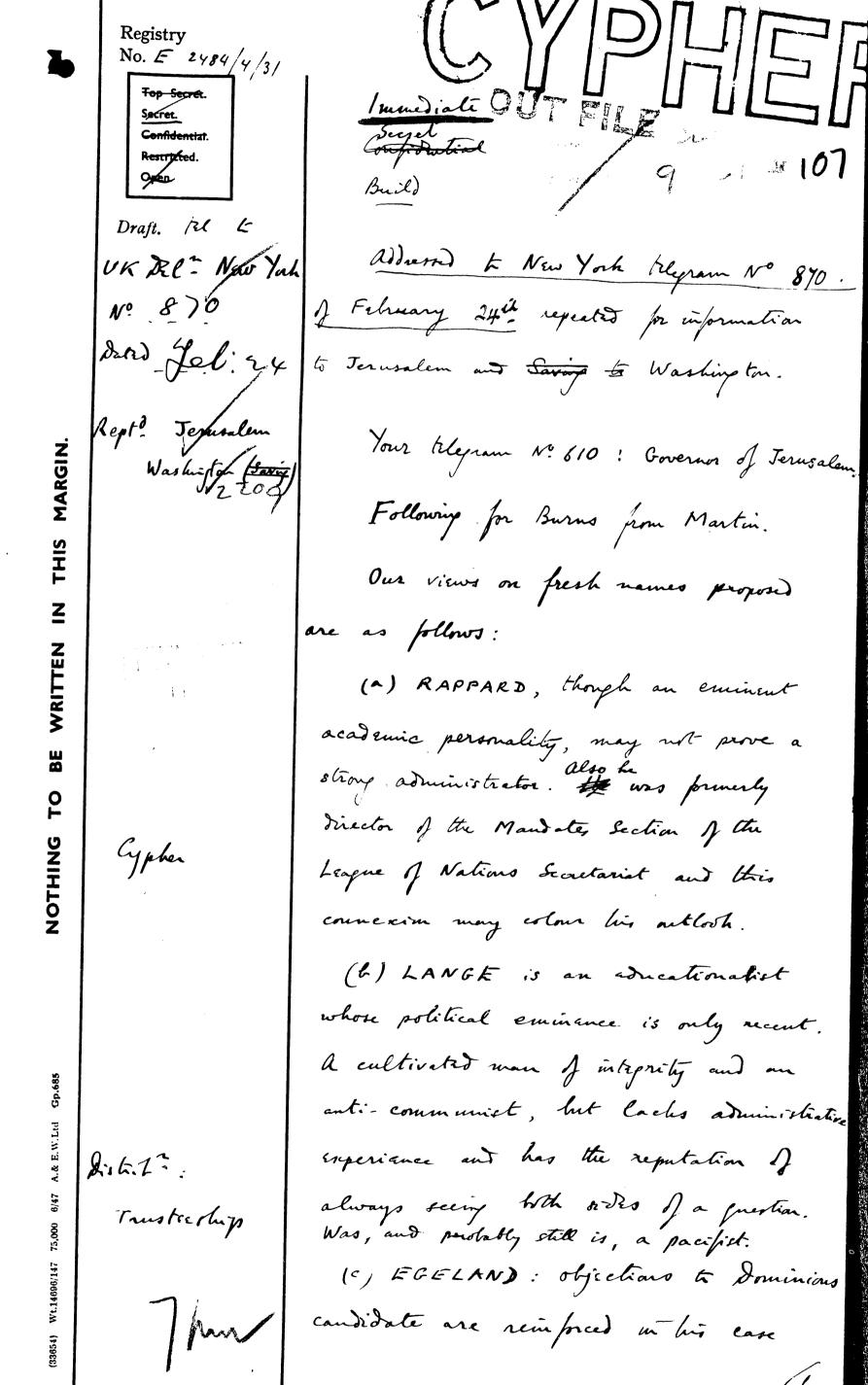
regarding difficulties in case of pominion names generally and particularly regarding Jackson and Drury. Sayre confirmed that Canadian Government are against appointment of a Canadian citizen, but offered himself, if Drury were selected, to go to Canada to try to persuade Lackenzie King to withdraw his objection. Pearson, whom we have consulted, had replied that Drury has not the necessary experience or standing to be considered for the appointment, and that for this and other reasons, Canadian Government would prefer not to receive any request to release him.

- 5. Each Delegate was asked to telegraph names in paragraph 5 above to his Government for their views, or for any additional suggestions, and it was decided that we should meet again on morning of Jebruary 25th to discuss results. It was emphasised that whilst views of Governments would be carefully considered they would not (repeat not) be binding on Trusteeship Council.
- 6. It is proposed that final list should be agreed on February 25th and that President of Trusteeship Council should then ascertain privately whether persons on final list were available and willing to accept offer if made. Final decision would then be taken. Form in which private approach should be made by resident was not (repeat not) finally agreed.
- 7. I have of course notes views in Foreign Office telegram No. 783 and will act accordingly. If you have any views on fresh names now being considered (or any other comments) I should be glad to have them by 0900 hours New York time on February 25th.
- 8. At ena of meeting Bunche announces that Palestine Commission was not (repeat not) in favour of early selection of Governor, and aid not think appointment should be made until June. Members of Trusteeship Council were unanimous that very early appointment should be made, and we propose to arrange private (repeat private) meeting with Commission to try to convince them that this is necessary.
- 9. It was previsionally agreed that salary (including allowances) of Governor should be between \$20,000 and \$25,000 per annum.

Please repeat to Jerusalen as my telegram No.123.

[Copy sent to Colonial Office for accressee and to Telegraph Section Colonial Office for transmission to Jerusalem].

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by the notorious partiality of his

fovernment on the Palestine issue.

Also he is not thought to be personally

very well qualified for such an

appointment:

[Copy Class to C.O. for D.B.

Septete troin to Jeruvaling 24/2

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on]

Cypher/OTP

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Secret

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO NEW YORK

(To United Kingdom Delegation to United Nations)

No: 870

24th February 1948

D.9.52.p.m.24th February 1948

Repeated to Jerusalem
Washington No: 2209

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Addressed to New York telegram No: 870 of February 24th repeated for information to Jerusalem and Washington.

Your telegram No: 610: Governor of Jerusalem.

Following for Burns from Martin.

Our views on fresh names proposed are as follows:

- (a) Rappard, though an eminent academic personality, may not prove a strong administrator. Also he was formerly director of the Mandates Section of the League of Nations Secretariat and this connexion may colour his outlook.
- (b) Lange is an educationalist whose political eminence is only recent. A cultivated man of integrity and an anti-Communist, but lacks administrative experience and has the reputation of always seeing both sides of a question. Was, and probably still is, a pacifist.
- (e) Egeland: objections to Dominions candidate are reinforced in his case by the notorious partiality of his Government on the Palestine issue. Also he is not thought to be personally very well qualified for such an appointment.

[Copy sent to Colonial Office for repetition to Jerusalem].

X:X:X:

371/6853

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